



THE

Fisherman

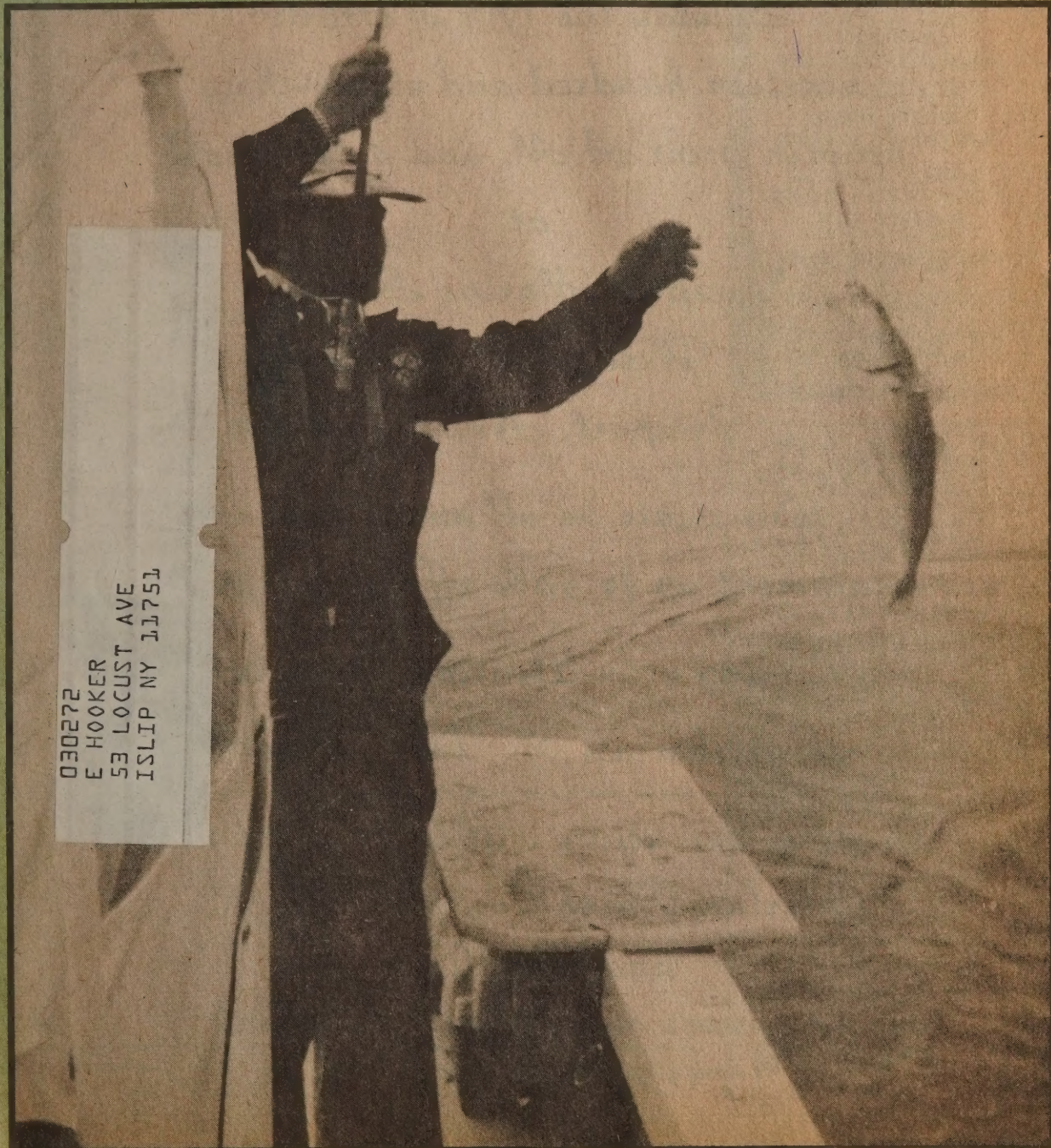
— THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION —

April 14th—20th, 1983
Volume 18, Number 15

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—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

Volume 18, Number 15

April 14th, 1983

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It's a toss up between diamond jigs and the trusted skimmer clam during Montauk's spring cod run. Gerald Hahn shares his thoughts on dazzling cod with diamonds on page 30.

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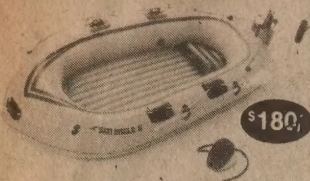
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FREEPORT MARINE HOLDS ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

On Sunday, April 17, 1983, Freeport Marine is holding their annual Open House "Sale-A-Bration." This is the store's 44th year serving Long Island's boating needs. Festivities will run from 9AM to 4PM and will include big discounts on all major brand equipment, free gifts, refreshments and door prizes. Store location is 47 West Merrick Road, Freeport, just one mile west of the Meadowbrook Parkway. For information, call (516) 379-2610.

ZAC GROSSMAN TO VISIT ATLANTIS ANGLERS

On Tuesday, April 26, 1983 at 8PM, Zac Grossman, captain of Montauk's "Mako Express" will be the guest speaker at a meeting of Atlantis Anglers Association at the Salty Bay Yacht Club, 180 West Side Avenue, Freeport, Long Island. Captain Grossman will give a presentation on "light tackle" fishing for shark, bluefish, tuna and marlin. This presentation will include films that will highlight his past fishing experiences.

The club has a limited number of openings available for new members. Anyone interested in becoming a member, is invited to attend this meeting.

For further information and directions, please call Joe Santangelo at (516) 796-2869 after 7PM.

CELEBRATE NATIONAL FISHING WEEK WITH BERKLEY'S "FREE REEL DEAL!"

What a deal!...buy a Filler Spool of Trilene from a participating dealer and get a Zebco Spincast reel filled with extra strong Trilene absolutely free.

We know it sounds too good to be true but to help celebrate National Fishing Week, Berkley is offering fishermen of all ages the most fantastic giveaway ever! When a fisherman walks into a participating dealer June 6 through 12, 1983 and walks out with a filler spool of Berkley's extra strong Trilene he is entitled to send in a coupon good for a Free Zebco Spincast Reel. Imagine, Dads all across the country can spool up with Trilene and get their kids a free Zebco reel (filled with Trilene)—all for the price of the Filler Spool!

This year's National Fishing Week theme is "Take A Kid Fishing" and Berkley hopes to give away one million reels to kids, many of whom might otherwise never get a chance to experience the thrill of the sport.

And while the free reel offer is spectacular, there's even more. Berk-

ley also has special rebate offers on several of their most popular rods: Cherrywood (\$2 rebate), Grayfite (\$3 rebate), and One Hundred Series (\$4 rebate). Now, when those million kids get their free reel they can also get one heckuva' deal on a rod to match.

Remember the dates June 6 through 12, 1983...that's National Fishing Week and that's a great time to buy Trilene, America's extra strong premium monofilament fishing line and get a Zebco Spincast reel absolutely FREE!

FLY TYING DEMONSTRATION BY POUL JORGENSEN

World recognized fly tyer, Poul Jorgensen, will be at Angler's Ruff demonstrating the art of fly tying. This open house affair will take place on Saturday, April 16th, between the hours of 10AM through 6PM. For further information, call (516) 676-0087.

AMITY HARBOR FISHING CLUB SET FOR CHOPPER ROUNDUP

The Amity Harbor Chopper Roundup will be held July 16th with a rain date of July 17th. Anglers may fish from either Fire Island Inlet or Jones Inlet. We have prizes for the heaviest fish (for both men and women) and for the heaviest fish on a single boat and team of boats.

Anyone needing information or applications should contact Richie Stahfest, Committee Chairman, 210 Greenlawn Terrace, Copiague, N.Y. 11726. Call 516-842-6606.

FARRAGUT CLUB HOLDS AWARD DINNER

At the Farragut Striper Club's 15th Annual Awards Dinner Dance, Fred Schwab was honored for his dedicated work toward the protection of the striped bass fishery and his efforts towards the 3rd Annual New York Surf Fishing Contest.

Some of the trophies awarded to its members were: Norwood Simmons for largest striped bass, 51 lbs.; John Fritz for large bluefish, 17.8; Richard Wade for largest weakfish, 12.14. To John Fritz for Total Points of fish over 5 lbs. (868); and Ken Kassan, Most Valuable Angler Award for participation and service to the club.

SURF SIDE 3 TUNA CLUB ANNOUNCES NEW SLATE FOR 1983

President: Frank Sterlacci; Vice-President: Pete Sindone; Treasurer: Woody Bradley; Rec. Sec.: Tom Sweeney; Cor. Sec.: Carmine Donarumma.

At this time we'd like to thank everyone who made 1982 a successful year and are looking forward to the same for 1983.

Surf Side 3 Tuna Club's 2nd Annual Shark Tournament will be held on July 16th with a total of \$38000 in cash prizes being awarded.

For more info call: Frank Pristera, (516) 957-3620 or Richie Molnar, (516) 785-0373.

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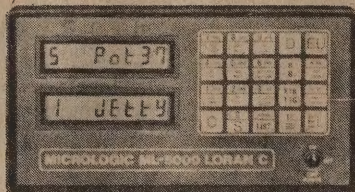
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New Products

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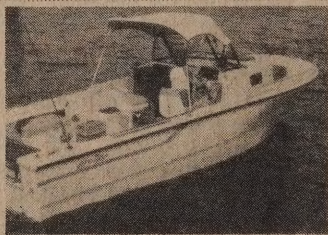
Berkley provides all the necessary materials to make leaders and rigs in their Deluxe Leader Kit. Included is a heavy duty crimping plier/cutter, tough enough to snap right through 49 strand wire and designed with thick non-slip coated handles for a comfortable grip. Equipped with several crimping impression sizes, this versatile tool is a must for every fisherman. When used with Berkley sleeve connectors it forms a solid, slip resistant coupling.

The crimping pliers are pre-packaged with a 30 foot dispenser pak of 30 pound test Steelon stainless steel nylon coated leader material and a package of connector sleeves (available in black or bright finish).

Prevent "bite-offs"...make your own wire leader and rigs with Berkley's Deluxe Leader Making Kit. An ideal gift that's indispensable to fishermen wherever wire line or leaders are fished.

For more information write to: Berkley and Co., Inc., Trilene Drive, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360.

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Byrd Industries, leading producer of electric trolling motors for fishing boats, has introduced a new powerful, top-of-the-line foot control model. Called the "XP Eagle," (for Extra Power), it delivers 33 lbs. of sustained thrust from a single 12-volt battery.

The new XP Eagle provides the features a fisherman appreciates. The foot control aids maneuvering the boat under often difficult conditions with the foot, this freeing both hands to cast or work a fish on the line. The "muscle" of the XP Eagle is often needed to battle wind, currents, and waves. This extra power is also welcomed by owners of larger boats. This model, like the other models in the XP Eagle line, features three forward and three reverse speeds.

Other models in the new XP Eagle line include a motor designed for use on a transom, and three motors for hand operation with a variety of bow mounts, depending on the type of boat with which it is to be used. Although the new XP Eagle features an entirely new electric powerhead, the balance of the motor is interchangeable with the other units in Byrd's line. This popular feature helps Byrd dealers keep interchangeable parts in stock.

The XP Eagles like the balance of the Byrd line, carry a three-year warranty on the powerhead. All models use radial-thrust precision



ball bearings, high temperature armature winding and double shaft seals. The heavy-duty switches with hand-painted wire terminals and extremely heavy-duty wiring are other popular features. The motor column is of an aircraft-grade alloy. A quick disconnect feature allows fast and easy removal from the boat for safe storage.

From Byrd Industries, Inc., South Industrial Park, Ripley, TN 38063.

REVOLUTIONARY AUGERTAIL WORM

Mann's Bait Company's revolutionary Augertail Worm has become the winningest worm known to Mann! The Augertail was the bait used, in recent back to back tournaments, by Cliff Craft to win the 1982 Alabama Invitational B.A.S.S. Tournament on Lake Eufaula, and Avis Vedder to win the Tom Mann's Bass'n Gal Alabama Invitational on Lake Eufaula.

Introduced only last year, the Augertail Worm is the most record-breaking, history-making lure ever created by Mann's Bait Company. For 1983, the Augertail line has been extended to include new pearlized colors and the red hot new Electric Grape Augertail, which is the fastest-selling lure Tom Mann has ever produced.

Made from the same formula as Mann's famous Jelly Worm, the Augertail has a life-like look and feel

and the auger twist in the tail makes it almost self-propelling.

In addition to the new colors, the Augertail is available in a variety of solids, metal flakes, and tiger stripes in 4, 6 and 8 inch sizes and comes in Snak-Paks, 10 Paks and Bulk Paks of 20 and 100.

STAGE 2 MARINE ANTENNAS PROVIDE FOR INCREASED RANGE

A revolutionary new VHF marine antenna system that guarantees substantially increased range and crystal-clear reception has been introduced by U.S. Fiberglass.

The STAGE 2 tuneable antenna represents a totally new concept in antenna design that is much more efficient than conventional antennas. STAGE 2 antennas utilize a voltage fed system, which results in an exceptionally efficient transfer of RF energy and an extremely low angle of radiation. The result is increased range over other antennas.

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today.

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For further information, contact: U.S. Fiberglass, 5101 N.W. 36th Ave., Miami, FL 33142 or phone (305) 634-1115, Toll Free FL 1-800-432-7142, Nat'l 1-800-327-6790.

NEW MEPPS STRIPER KIT

Mepps introduces another step forward for striped bass fishermen. It's Mepps programmed STRIPER KIT—K5. The Kit includes a Mepps goldbo Giant Killer with yellow natural bucktail, a rainbo scale Striper Spoon, two Mepps Striper Giant Killers with white and green bucktails, and a Mepps Striper Killer with a white bucktail. The Striper Kit features a new, super deep runnin' Giant Luxox. It's a size 4, 7 inches long with a silver blade and red hackle. The 1½ ounce Giant Luxox can be cast and fished in the deepest waters. Individually, the Giant Luxox is also available with a single hook for use with live bait. With this new Striper Kit—K5, Mepps offers the striper fisherman a powerful lineup of proven striper catchin' lures.

For further information, contact Sheldon's, Inc., Robin Coleman, Ad Manager, CS 508, Antigo, Wis. 54409-0508.

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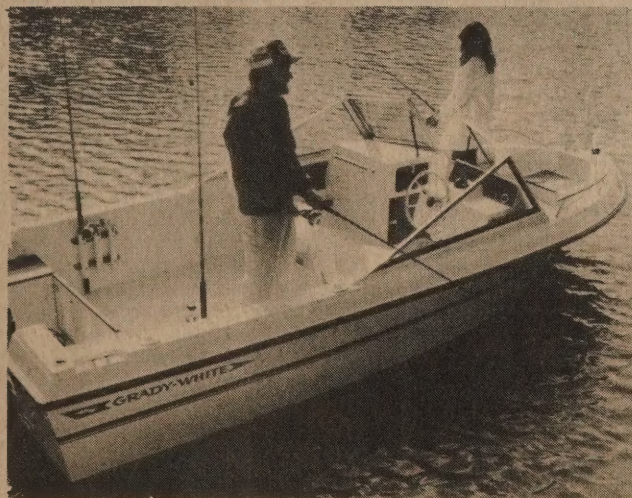
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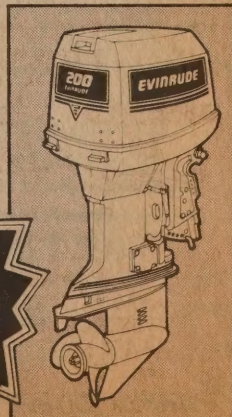
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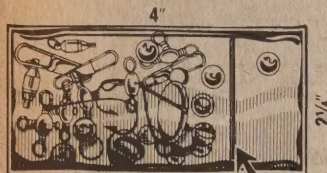
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The Captain's Table: OVEN POACHED FISH

by Eileen Regina

Once in awhile when either by luck, guile, or skill, you end up with a very large fish to cook, it's fun to serve it whole to a big group of admiring friends, relatives, and dinner guests. With Andy stocking our fish larder, we don't have that pleasant problem too often. He either comes home with small fish that he insists are tastiest anyhow, or no fish at all because of his reluctance to kill and keep anything we do not truly need for survival. My misguided misfit claims that we do not have to add to fish mortality rates to keep hunger from our door, yet thinks nothing of donating his entire catch to the members of a party boat crew, to "help the boys make a couple of extra bucks." His double standard is practiced by most anglers, too. The same guys who castigate hunters about killing living animals are usually the ones that account for hundreds of dead fish each season, every season, year after year. It makes no sense to a dummy like me. I figure that killing is killing, and if you're against it, fine, but don't preach one philosophy and practice the exact opposite! Besides, you can always limit your take-home catch as opposed to your actual in-boat total by following Uncle Sam's payroll tax deduction system, whereby you **never** take home what you actually make!

Anyhow, we ended up with a nice cod of about 15 pounds or so one day and I decided to cook it whole and serve it just like they do in the movies. The problem is that very few of us have a pot big enough to hold a fish of such proportions, so we give up before we try. The answer is simple: wrap the fish securely in aluminum foil, add some flavorings, and poach it in its own juices in a hot oven. In my opinion there's no better way of cooking fish; it's easy, it's fast, and it's a lot less messy than other

methods.

I can't give you specific quantities because I don't know how big your fish is, and each individual fish will weigh differently. Put plenty of butter, some chopped onion and maybe some whole sprigs of dill in the fish's cavity. Lay the fish on a large (more than ample) sheet of heavy-duty foil. **DON'T SKIMP!** This is an easy method of cooking but you'll ruin it if any of the steam or juices escape during the process. Measure the fish at its thickest point before wrapping, then be certain to roll all seams several times to ensure a good seal. Bake it on a rack in a preheated 450° F. oven for ten minutes to the inch at the widest depth (the measurement we just took, remember?), plus an additional total of ten minutes for the time necessary for the heat to penetrate the foil. Here we revert back to the formula devised by the Dept. of Fisheries of Canada, that we divulged in a recent article.

Note that by using this method you will cook a fat 15 lb. cod much longer than you would a long, slim 15 lb. king mackerel, which is as it should be and is what makes this minutes-per-inch rule such a big improvement over the old minutes-per-pound rule. This way, if your fish measured six inches at its widest point, it should be ready in exactly one hour—ten minutes per inch, or $10 \times 6 = 60$.

Remove the fish and unwrap it, placing whole fish upright on a platter. Serve with melted butter mixed with lemon juice and the juices that collect in the foil. Garnish with parsley and lemon slices and decorate perimeter of platter with small, whole boiled potatoes. Some heated, crusty French bread, cool white wine, and a crisp green salad complete a feast that will delight anyone who loves eating food that truly tastes as good as it looks.

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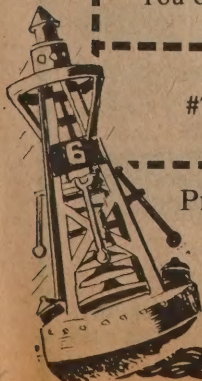
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"MUSSEL UP" FOR FLOUNDER

by Lou Mauriello

Few will dispute the virtues of this popular bivalve as a flounder bait; many claim it's the ultimate.

Don't run away or turn the page! This isn't going to be a crash course in body building or any of that nonsense. Especially not from this person, who is approaching middle-age and cares not to lift anything heavier than a fishing outfit. What I really want to concentrate on is what we commonly refer to as the bank mussel.

I have never been much of a record keeper, but as I recall it was about 15 years ago that some of us bay rats were hanging out, as usual, in front of Mike's Tackle Shop, swapping tall tales on a warm spring day when up walked one of my friends and he related a story to us about some fine flounder fishing at a place called Rose's Grove. I had already been fishing the South Fork for a few years, but had never been to the North Fork; so I quickly made plans for the following day, with that gent, to head east.

Early the next morning saw me and my companion stuffed into my VW beetle, along with the usual assortment of fishing gear. Upon our arrival at Captain Marty's Fishing Station in New Suffolk, day broke to a cloudless sky with barely a hint of a breeze from the west.

While renting our boat and motor, I asked whether blood or sand worms were to be used as bait and I was rather surprised when I was informed it was to be neither. Instead, I was told we would be using mussels as bait that day. We purchased a half bushel, unopened, for chum and another two quarts, opened and in containers, for the hooks.

I recall we fished in 15 feet of water that day and wound up with nearly 50 of those beautiful Peconic flounder.

I could have gone on and on about the fishing of that particular day, but that is not my objective. What I am relating is that the day was one of particular importance in my fishing education as it was the first time I used mussels for bait.

I had the usual problem trying to keep the slimy little critters on the hooks, but at the day's end, I was convinced they beat all other baits I ever used for spring flounder. For fall floundering, I prefer red dyed clams, but that is another story to be told another time.

Now, after about 15 years of using

mussels, I am **totally** convinced that they are the top bait for spring flounder. Let me back this statement up with two more incidents which occurred in recent years.

About four years ago, I ran a charter to Quincy, Mass. and while planning what tackle to take, I decided to include a quart of opened mussels. I knew a flat of worms was included in the price of the boat rental from the local livery but I was already a confirmed mussel user and thought, "If they work on our flounder, why not their cousins up in Boston?"

I won't go into detail about that day, but I will tell you that the mussels consistently outscored the worm baited hooks in both size and quantity. It got to the point where the two fellows who were fishing in the

dory with me were ready to toss me overboard.

Last year, in the middle of April, I was asked to join two friends on a flounder trip to Jamaica Bay. Once again I included a quart of opened mussels with the results being that they outperformed the other baits being used that day.

I used these varied dates and places to try to show that over the span of 15 years and no matter if you are fishing in New York City, on Long Island or decide to travel to Massachusetts for your flounder fishing, the bank mussels will constantly outfish other baits.

I can already hear the grumbling by some of our readers that they have tried mussels as bait and they are not so hot. Well, read on and I'll try to

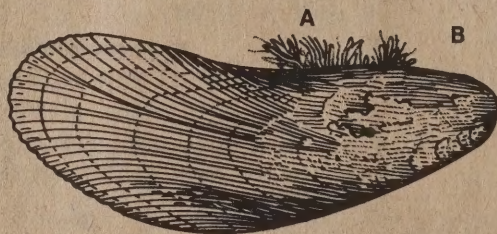


Figure 1. In this sketch of a bank mussel, "A" shows the beard, referred to in the text, and "B" shows the end which should be uppermost in your hand just prior to opening.

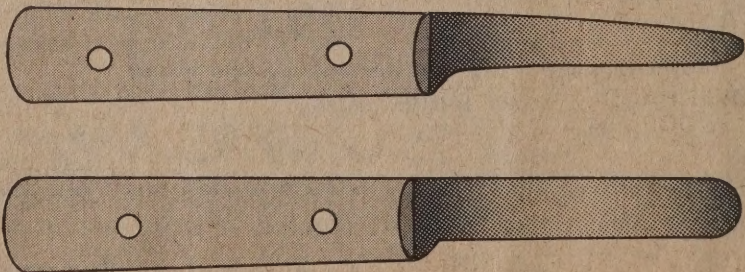


Figure 2. These sketches of two different knives used by the author display the subtle difference in clam knives. The bottom knife is preferred as it has a more flexible blade.

remedy that for you.

First of all, I believe when you are going to use mussels for bait, they should be shucked fresh and kept in a container with their natural juices so they will retain their flavor and aroma. What I don't do is pack them with salt or use hot water to assist in opening them. Sure, both methods help to toughen the mussel meat, which makes it easier to get it on a hook and harder for a fish to strip that hook. The thing is though, do we want that mussel made tougher? I say no and I'll give you my reasons.

As we all know, flounder go into a state of what one could call hibernation during the winter months. When spring arrives and the days get longer, these little critters, now awakening from their rest, stick their noses out of the mud and start searching for bits of food. For some reason, maybe because of the lethargy induced by their long rest, these fish seem to prefer a very soft bait. It appears they want something they can slurp into their little mouths without the added effort of having to rip it into smaller pieces. The mussel, therefore, is ideal in this situation. Not only is it nice and soft but it is found in abundance in most locations where flounder are found thus making it a natural in their diet. It also seems that the color of the mussel is attractive to the fish. Did you ever wonder who so many flounder pounders paint their sinkers yellow? Well, wonder no more.

Mussels are available in most bays and creeks and as long as local ordinances permit, you can get all you want for free. I admit to being a bit lazy though, so I go to one of my local bait dealers a few days before a planned fishing trip and purchase about 10 pounds of unopened fresh mussels. These will yield enough meat to fill a quart container, with enough left over to be used as chum while fishing.

Getting the mussels is easy enough, whether you pick them yourself or buy them as I do. Opening them is another story. As previously stated, I don't like steaming my mussels open. I don't think flounder cook their food, so I would rather shuck the mussels fresh. Of course, this is where the work comes in and it is not an easy task, even though with a little practice and patience, it can be mastered by anyone. At first, if you are like almost everyone else, you will make a mess out of 75 percent of the mussels you are opening; but take my advice, don't quit. You will find after a few sessions, that not only will you be able to open mussels quicker but they will be coming out in one piece. Let me try and explain my way of opening these critters.

First of all, you must, and I do mean must, have the right kind of knife for this kind of work. Forget those boning knives, pocket knives or any knife with a long, stiff blade. If you are to open mussels properly, you must have a knife with a short, fairly

flexible blade. I use a wide bladed skimmer knife that has a relatively good amount of flex to it. If you don't have such a knife, my suggestion to you is that you go out and buy one. They are very inexpensive (somewhere around \$2 or so) and are really needed for this job. When shopping for one of these knives, my suggestion is that you test whatever ones they may have in stock by pressing them against a hard object and then select the knife that flexes the most. Here again, I don't mean a blade that will bend into a U, but if you find one that flexes about 3/4 of an inch from the center line of the blade, you've got a good one. I also try to stick to a wide blade, meaning the blade is almost as wide as the handle, as they tend to be more flexible than the narrower blades. This same knife, as an added bonus, is also the best for shucking skimmers as you can make it conform to the curvature of the shell.

When you get your mussels, knife and container, find a place to open those mussels that won't wind you up in divorce court. They are quite messy and when you run across one with a soft shell, they have a habit of collapsing in your hand, squirting juice for 10 feet in all directions. I don't know about you, but I do know that I wouldn't want to face my wife after splattering mussel juice all over her kitchen wallpaper. Nope, I'll use my garage, thank you.

When picking a mussel to open, try to pick one at least 2½ inches long as they are easier to open than the smaller ones. As you get better at it, you can open the smaller ones, but I choose to save them whole for use as chum.

After choosing the right size mussel, place it in your left hand, if you are right-handed and lay it in your palm with the convex part of it toward the heel of the hand and the pointed, hinged portion of the shell pointing up as you are looking at it. As you are looking at this little critter, you should notice what I call a beard on the concave part of the shell. Actually, it is the part of the shell by which the mussel sticks itself to an object so that it can grow without being swept away by the tide. You now take your knife in your right hand and scrape away that beard. When that is done, you will notice a slight opening at that place. That is where you now insert the point of the knife and if you are holding the knife correctly, with the cutting edge towards you, you press down on the handle which forces the tip of the blade against the upper shell of the mussel and by drawing the knife toward you, you sever both the membrane from the upper shell and cut the muscle located at the flared end of the shell. Without removing the knife, you then move it back toward the tapered end of the shell, thereby releasing the membrane and cutting the muscle on that end. The next step is simply removing the top shell with a twist of the right

(Continued on next page.)

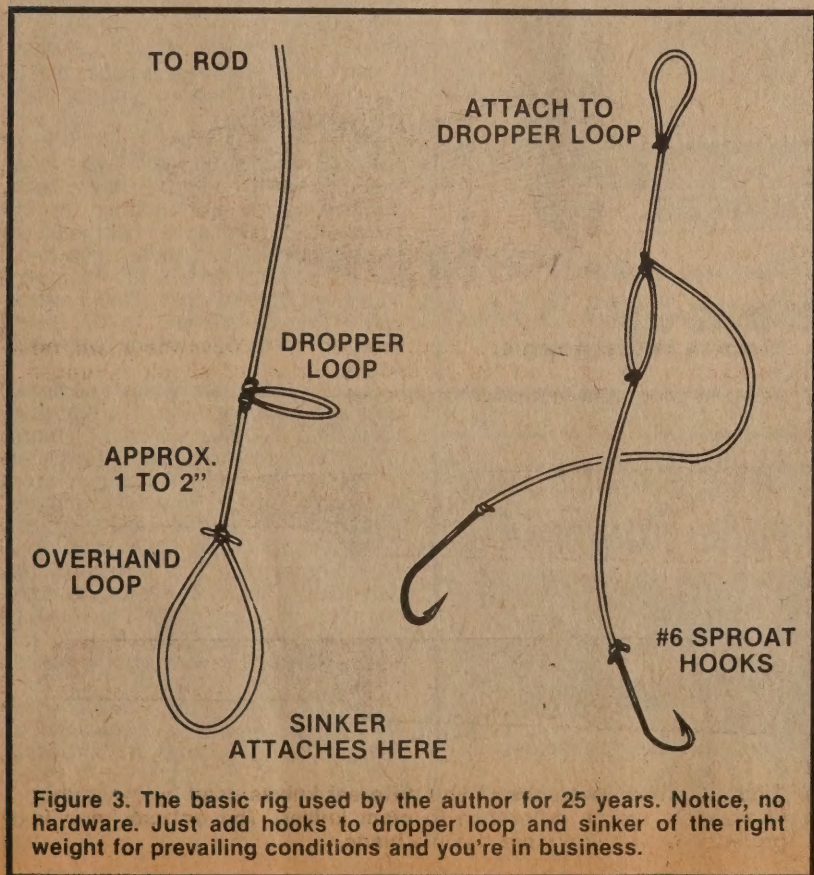


Figure 3. The basic rig used by the author for 25 years. Notice, no hardware. Just add hooks to dropper loop and sinker of the right weight for prevailing conditions and you're in business.

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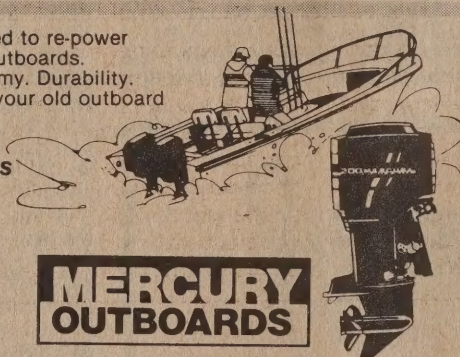
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hand. Now, you put the tip of your knife under the meat at the pointy end and in one continuous circular motion you remove the meat from the shell. It is supposed to come out in one piece, but don't despair if it doesn't. Only plenty of practice will make you proficient at this procedure.

I would like to point out one very important thing to anyone who hasn't attempted to open mussels before. **DO NOT USE A SHARP KNIFE.** The shells have a habit of disintegrating in your hand at the wrong time thereby causing the knife blade to strike the palm of your hand. It doesn't take a brain surgeon to figure out what happens to your hand if the knife is sharp.

As for the storage of the shucked mussel, I like to use the empty, yellow plastic containers that my wife buys ricotta in at the supermarket. Not only is the price right, but I think they are the best container you can keep mussels in as once the top is snapped in place they are leak-proof. Also, if a trip should be cancelled or if at the end of a day's fishing any bait should be left over, you just pop the top on the container and throw it in your freezer. One word of caution though: let the wife know what's in that container or you may someday hear her shrieking as she tries to add "that" package of ricotta to her baked ziti.

When using mussels as bait, I have found the #6 Sproat hook, made by Mustad, the best. This hook is listed as stock #3399 by the manufacturer. As with any other fishing, I take my floundering seriously, so naturally, I snell my own hooks. It is much less expensive to buy a box of hooks and a handful of 20 lb. leader material than buying the finished product.

As to the fish catching ability of those #6 Sproats, let me tell you, they are second to none. I have been floundering (no pun intended) for 25 years and only because I happened to read an article in this magazine, written by Matt Ahern, did I happen to try the Sproat hooks. Now several of my friends ask me to tie these hooks for them. Seems they have seen the light.

It appears that because of the lightness of the Sproat hook, the bait acts very natural, thus producing more strikes from flounder than other styles of hooks. I've seen it happen time after time both on my boat and on party boats in head to head competition with all the other styles used. I've had no problem at all with the hooking and holding ability of the Sproat hook even though it just doesn't look like a flounder hook. Don't be afraid to try them. Believe me, they are a superior hook.

There are two things I have failed to mention, but I hope you already know them. Try to remember, no hardware and do chum! Combined with fresh mussels and #6 Sproat hooks, you should find yourself with a good supply of flounder fillets on hand this spring.

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RIGGING FOR EFFICIENCY

Part One — *by Ray Hendrickson*

Here are some thoughts from a veteran fisherman/boatman on rigging out a fishing machine for peak efficiency.

Is there anything more thrilling than trying to jam both arms through an eight inch Beckson hatch to feed a wire to the washdown pump? What matches the enjoyment of knuckles skinned to the bone wrenching nuts in a blind pocket under the coaming to secure a set of outrigger holders? These are but two of the myriad joys derived while rigging out a fishing machine.

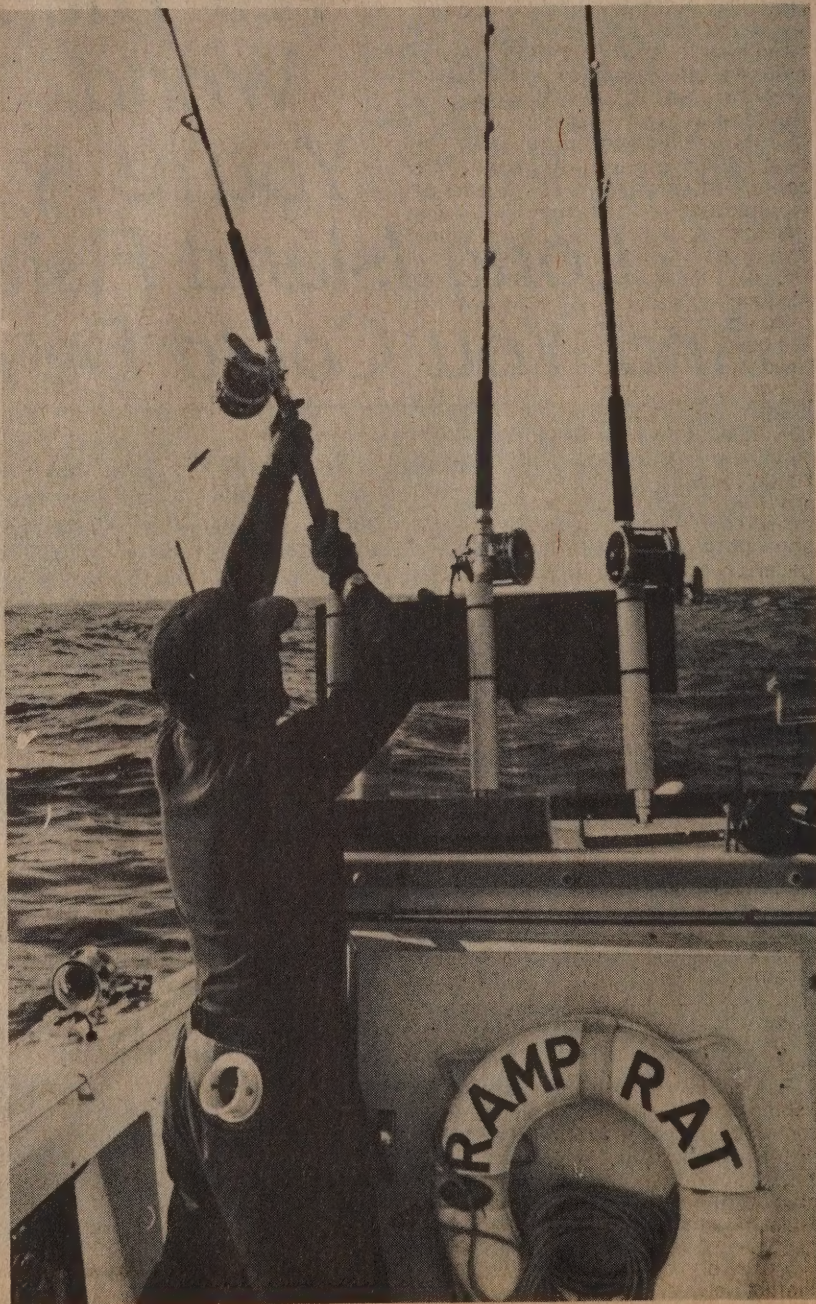
So, you could very well do without blood on the deck and creased muscles. So could I, but it seems to be part and parcel of setting up a boat precisely the way **you** want it. The no-nonsense, undeniable, gratification comes when chores are finished and the boat is fishing.

Books have been written about rigging a fishing boat—and have yet to completely cover the topic. Still, we'll cover as much as we can on this tide, concentrating on purely fishing-oriented gear. On the next high water we'll discuss arrangements pertinent to all boats, whether strictly fishing machines or all-around family boats.

There's scarcely anything more essential to fishing boats of any size than rod racks and holders; the former for stowage and the latter for battle. Adequate racking is inversely proportional to the size of the boat. A 40-footer may have ample space, but chances are it carries no more rods than many an 18-footer skippered by an ardent angler. Ingenuity and compromise become increasingly important as boat size decreases.

Boats without inner liners, and sporting wide washboards (gunwale decks, if you will) offer the most room for rod stowage, for the more sticks that can be racked horizontally and clear of cockpit traffic, the better. Sometimes the side compartments in boats that do have cockpit liners can be enlarged to accommodate longer, if not more, rods. If there's dead space forward or aft of the open compartment, holes may be cut to allow rod tips to pass through. Padding the holes with urethane foam cemented around the edges softens both abrasion and tempers.

A paramount requirement for any rod rack is security, and this means more than just a series of holes in one leg of the rack and contoured slots in the other. I'm a staunch advocate of



A rod rack designed particularly for chumming sharks from a center console skiff. With a hook-up, the other rods are quickly brought in and racked amidship, freeing the boat for a 360 degree battle front.

shock cord for holding a plethora of gear, and particularly rods, firmly in place. The next time a rod tip hits the deck just as a crew member scrambles to maintain footing as the bow slams into raunchy water—will not be the first, or the last, time.

With the butt firmly seated in its hole and the rod tip in the slot, secure a short length of 3/16" shock cord to the slotted upright member of the rack just above the slot. The easiest way is to drill a hole in the upright, pass the cord through and trap it with a tight overhand knot in the very end of the cord. Cut a quarter inch slot below the slot holding the rod, angling it upward and outboard for a distance of about one inch. Stretch the cord down and across the rod and slip it into the new slot. Tie another overhand knot to trap the cord in the slot and trim off any excess. To release, grab the lower knot and pull the cord from the slot.

If there's room in the bow sections of a center console additional horizontal racks can be added immediately under the gunwale decks where flare generally provides an opportunity to keep the rods at least half out of the way. Skippers with cuddy cabins frequently rack at least a few sticks over the bunks. Here, too, the butts are best slipped into holes in an overhead wood strip and the skinny ends either held by one of the commercial clamps available, or by custom cutting a series of inverted L-shaped slots and locking the rods in with shock cord.

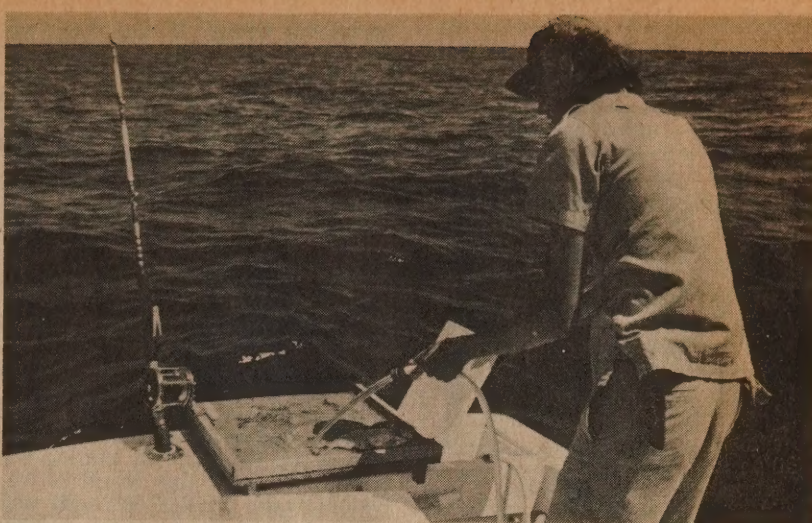
Vertical racks to be mounted on inboard engine boxes, around the console or against a bulkhead, are generally made of PVC pipe. There's an ample assortment of ready-made units on the market, but many skippers custom build their own. If you don't see exactly what you need in the shops you can make your own by following the same simple construction methods.

Although hardly adaptable to vertical racks, unless they are mounted against an extraordinarily high bulkhead, carpet patches are a worthy adjunct to horizontal rod racks. Outdoor carpeting contact-cemented to the boat structure behind the reels and the rod tips does wonders in knocking down vibration rattles. It's also beneficial to tender carbide and ceramic tiptops, and protects the gel-coat from pounding reels. Don't, however, use pre-cut, foam-backed, carpet tiles. The foam rots out after a season or two.

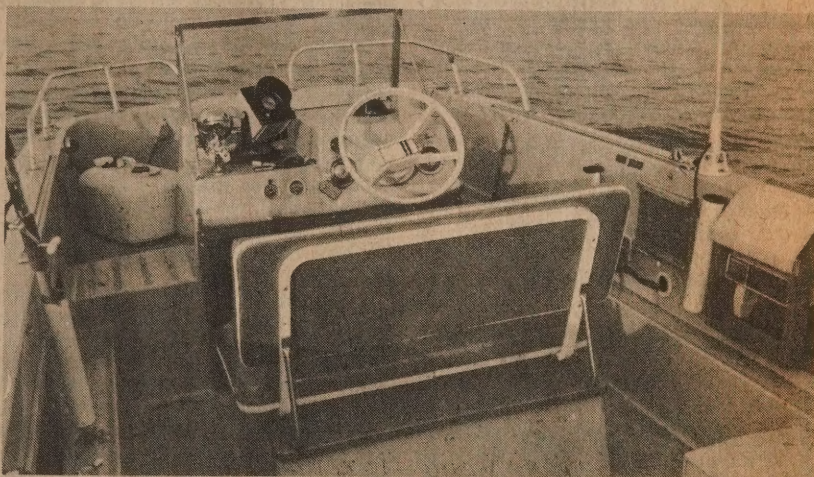
Rod holder requirements vary with fishing styles. Trollers want a full complement spaced around the cockpit; usually at least two on each side and at least one on the transom if there isn't any outboard engine well. Flush mounts are best, as they are out of the way and can be angled outboard at varying increments to reduce conflict between adjacent lines.

Check whether the bottom ends will interfere with storage space in com-

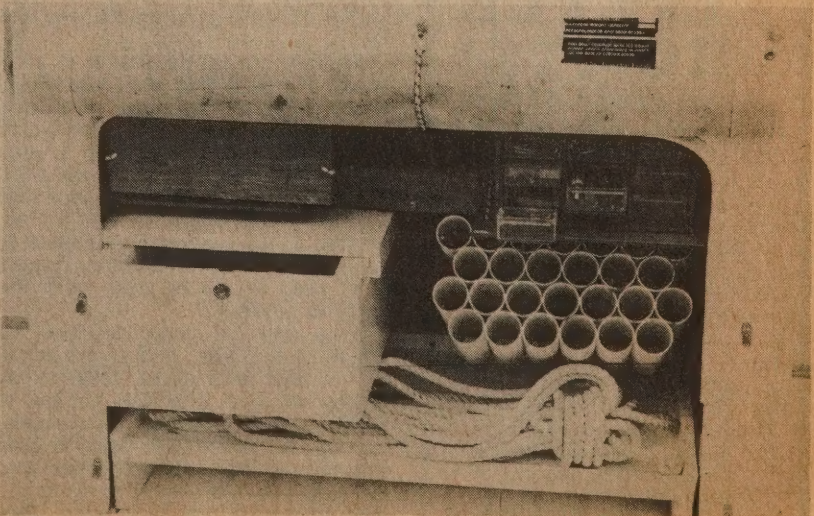
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A bait board and washdown hose complement each other. Although scarcely a piece of furniture, this board contains cutting and rigging chores without turning the cockpit into a butcher shop.



Homemade rod holders mounted to boat structure with contoured wood blocks and through-bolts. The inboard sides of the tubes are drilled to pass a screwdriver through to the head of the screw. The "flapped" radio compartment in the starboard bulwark provides protection and accessibility while freeing the console compartment for tackle shelves.



This PVC pipe lure rack, mounted in a center console well, will hold a reasonable assortment of plugs, and small jigs can be inserted in the cavities between the tubes.

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partments below. If the tube will pierce a blind cavity, provide for drainage, either by capping the lower end and leading a hose out of the compartment (usually winds up clogging and smelling), or by creating a drain in the compartment itself.

Surface mounted rod holders consisting of tubing and clamps may impinge upon the crew's anatomy now and then, but may be the only means of installing holders when gunwale decks are absent. They can be store-bought, or custom made in your own, or a friend's shop. PVC tubing (bless the stuff) and stainless steel hose clamps are principal parts, although stainless steel straps make a neater installation if available. The clamps are reworked by cutting the bands opposite the worm drive, bending tabs on the cut ends and screwing same to structure. Gimbals lock pins across the bottom of the PVC pipe sections can be machine screws or short lengths of 3/16 inch copper tubing with the ends flared a bit after insertion.

Two other rod holders that solve many an installation problem are those designed to clamp to railings, and the detachable units that fit into a matching dovetail plate. The former can usually be angled in any direction, including straight outboard. The detachable holders are ideal for centerline holders installed at the aft edge of hardtops, and for mounting across the transom.

Outriggers run the gamut from expensive braced-support units to simple small boat poles mounted in gunwale sockets or against cuddy cabin sides. Whatever the style, and size of boat involved, placement of the riggers in relation to the rod holders is critical—but simple. The release clip on the rigger should always be even with, and preferably aft of, the rod tip. If it's otherwise, you can be sure that eventually a good fish is going to knock you down some fine windy day, the line will foul the rod tip...and you'll have another entry for your "what if?" file—and maybe one less rod.

Another critical parameter is stiffness. 'Riggers that are excessively limber will yank baits out of choppy water so hard that a flying fish would turn green with envy. Even a tuna would be hard pressed to keep up with the action—and would soon lose interest when he saw the bait fouled, twisted in the leader. One means of controlling whip in small boat 'riggers is to keep a bow in them with the running tackle.

This can be accomplished by fastening the lower end of the tackle to the boat with shock cord, or by incorporating a line dog similar to those used to tension tent ropes. Ideally, but not always possible, the running tackle is attached to the boat at a particular spot that maintains the desired bow in the poles when they are extended, and when set upright, without resort to adjustment.

And don't for one minute think the

poles have to be extended to catch fish. Spread is not always as important as height. Many a good trophy wound up in the boat because the skipper was savvy enough to raise the rigger to make a bait skip far back in the wake.

Not so incidentally, I always fix my lines in the clips with #10 rubber bands to preclude chafing the line directly in the clip. However, this season I'll be using a pair of the new AFTCO roller clips. They look good and should permit changing line length by simply cranking the reel. I'll let you know just how good they are later into the year.

Flat line clips are another mandatory bit of rigging for many trolling situations, and easy to set up. About four plastic "clothespin" clips spaced across the transom, either screwed in place or strung on a taut length of quarter inch line, are useful for keeping feathers from skipping excessively when trolled close in rough seas. They also provide a modicum of dropback before the barb pierces.

Chummers and rigged-bait trollers are hard pressed without some sort of bait board. It can be as plain as a scrap of plywood laid on the deck, or a fancy teak-and-mica piece of furniture, but it's certainly better to have something rigged at a comfortable height on the gunwale or transom. A workable unit consists of a board about 14x20 inches (or thereabout) with 1½ inch high walls on three sides. The open side faces outboard and should overhang the boat by a few inches. Set up this way, the baits stay put, and gurry is easily washed overboard without messing decks and coamings. Attachment to the boat can be by means of cleats notched to grip the gunwale, or by a screw driven through an apron piece projecting down and overlapping the coaming.

Take a tip from one (of many) who learned the hard way: keep the bait knife on a lanyard secured to the bait board.

If it isn't bait, it has to be lures...and where do we stash them? And it's not only lures that get kicked about, but snaps, swivels, sinkers, hooks and sundry other bits of tackle. Tackle boxes may serve on some boats, but I think most skippers tend to make the entire boat a tackle box. I know I do, but for years it was a disaster until storage ideas slowly jelled.

PVC. Why not? They make great plug racks when pieces are glued together side by side in line contact. These racks can be merely a single line of tubes or a stack of two or three tiers. PVC pipe point cement does the job, bonding almost instantly and with amazing strength.

Selecting diameters suited to your arsenal, cut lengths sufficiently long to encompass the plugs when they are dropped head first in the tubes and hung with the tail hook on the upper edge. But be sure the tubes are long enough to prevent dangling hooks



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from catching the bottom edge. They can make a Chinese puzzle look like child's play. If there's room to mount these racks in the open, they offer the added advantage of easy washdown with fresh water at day's end.

A quickie, yet amazingly serviceable lure rack can be made by merely fastening a panel of tough urethane foam wherever convenient. Hooks go in and out with scant effort, and although the foam will eventually get chewed up it's easily replaced if merely "tacked" with a few spots of glue, or held with screws and washers.

Small-parts drawer sets are ideal for keeping bits and pieces in order. One or two nine-drawer units will hold a considerable assortment of swivels, split rings, **ad infinitum**. But stay clear of units with steel housings. They rust! Keep a tinkerer's eye peeled for the ads and you'll soon come across the type with plastic enclosures.

Granted, these storage units can't be mounted in the open unless you care to have the little plastic drawers fill with water, but if there's a bit of protected space on a shelf or under some part of the overhead they'll last a long time, and so will the contents. There is one problem with these units: the drawers tend to pop out when running through a chop. A small panel of quarter inch plywood held across the drawer faces with

shock cord, or some similar arrangement, keeps everything in place—provided you remember to keep the plywood engaged when waves build. If rattles bother you, the drawers can be lined with some of the thin closed-cell foam used for packaging delicate products.

Although a bucket dipped over the side is really all that's required to rinse out blood, chum and spilled jelly sandwiches, a washdown pump is a handy and utile embellishment on any fishing machine. Jabsco's Water Puppy, although far from a fire pump, has become practically the standard pump for small boats. Self-priming, it can be installed above the waterline. Other than following the manufacturer's instructions, here's a few tips.

Mount the pump "motor up" so that any seal leakage that does occur won't drain onto the motor. Leave a loop of excess suction hose in the bilge. If you ever need extra bilge pump capacity simply close the seacock and cut the hose. If you don't install a seacock above the through-hull fitting (and you should), secure a standpipe to the through-hull with its upper end well above the waterline. PVC is a good choice for this application, too—but support the upper end to thwart cracking from vibration.

For those seeking fish in ebob hours some sort of lighting arrangement is practically a must—except for stalwarts working environs such as

the Elbow, the Gut or Valiant on darkly mysterious nights with a masked penlight clamped between their teeth. Small lights installed under the covering boards provide ample working light without scaring hell out of nearby fish. An ideal arrangement is to have each light controlled by an individual switch, but with a master switch at the helm. This gives the skipper absolute control should he suddenly want to douse everything to kill glare off the helm. Additionally, a coat of red dye on the bulbs, or on the lenses is helpful should you be a confirmed night hawk.

The other end of the spectrum is to light up the cockpit—and the surrounding water—like a movie studio. Two reasons that come instantly to mind are night weakfishing and offshore chumming. For weaks, the light is a source of chum, attracting all manner of goodies such as shrimp, squid and spearing—and you know what follows them (or is supposed to).

When offshore at night, plenty of light serves to prevent the action from becoming chaotic, and certainly doesn't do any harm in alerting (if they're looking) tanker helmsmen of your position. However, if glare prevents you from scanning the horizon, turn the lights off at frequent intervals and search long and hard.

That's enough light upon the subject for now.

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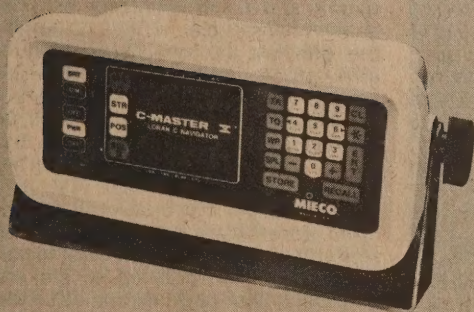
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QUEUE UP FOR STRIPERS

by Bill Ricca

The first shot at migrating stripers is reserved for those anglers willing to dunk worms along western north shore beaches.

Except for some winter-over striped bass that are taken at the Northport power plant, the first bass caught in our area each year are taken in the western part of Long Island Sound. These early run fish are migrants from the Hudson stock which supplies the bulk of Long Island Sound's striper population. A vast majority of all the Long Island Sound striped bass winter over in the Hudson River, according to an Atomic Energy Environment Report released in 1972.

During this winter-over period, the stripers are in a state of hibernation but with the coming of spring and rising water temperatures, the fish become active, spawn and begin to leave their protected Hudson River grounds. This migration usually begins in early April, but may vary by

as much as a few weeks depending upon the severity of winter and early spring temperatures. First to leave are the smaller fish, followed some weeks later by the larger "cows." Upon entering Long Island Sound, many fish will stop over in Little Neck and Manhasset Bays, Hempstead Harbor and the area around Centre Island Reef and Oyster Bay. This western stretch of the north shore is ideally suited for striped bass. Its rocky bottom and irregular shore line, with its bays and coves, offer ideal places for bass to forage and grub among the rocks for food. It is at this time of year that bottom fishing for striped bass is the order of the day.

For this type of fishing where long casts are not necessary, I have found that a medium action, seven to nine

foot spinning outfit loaded with 12-15 pound test line is best. Your terminal tackle should consist of a fishfinder rig, a two or three ounce sinker and a single 2/0 or 3/0 baitholder hook. Above the hook (about three inches) is attached a three to four inch cylindrical cork. For bait, use two large sand or blood worms, the first of which is impaled through the head and threaded all the way up the shank of the hook to the cork float. You should allow about one-quarter of the worm to hang loose. The second worm should be attached in a similar manner, except it should be threaded up the hook until it meets the first worm. In this manner, about two-thirds of the second worm is dangling from the hook, providing a natural looking presentation.

Probably the most important item with respect to our terminal rig is the cork float. Not any type cork, but a three to four inch cylindrical-shaped float through which a 30 pound test mono leader can be threaded. The cork is affixed three inches from the hook and should be painted. We quarter our corks vertically with red and white stripes. It was originally thought that the sole purpose of the cork was to keep the bait off the bottom and out of reach of crabs and other scavenger type fish. However, people began to experiment and found that a red and white painted cork produced more action than rigs with the unpainted floats.

As we progress further into spring, artificials will begin to produce action. By day, small popping plugs and small tins like the Hopkins and Kastmaster lures will work well. Small swimming plugs such as Rebels and small Danny Surface Swimmer work best after dark.

During the past few springs, the hot lure has been a swimmer such as a 4½ or 5½ inch RedFin or Rebel fished in conjunction with a large white streamer feather. The feather or a white bucktail is attached by a six inch length of 30 pound mono which is attached to a three-way swivel which, in turn, is tied into the main line about two feet in front of the lure.

This set-up gives the impression of a large baitfish chasing after a smaller one. At times, the plug may get a hit and other times the "teaser" will get the action. This set-up has been deadly on bass from Long Island to Cape Cod over the past several years



As spring progresses, schoolies like this can be taken on an assortment of artificials, but worms reign supreme at the start.

and some really outsized bass have been caught on the small feathers.

This technique in this type of fishing is to just make your cast and retrieve your lure very slowly. It is best practiced at night and a particular hotspot for the technique in the Western Sound has been the Causeway at Cold Spring Harbor. Besides taking many bass, it has proved itself a deadly weakfish producer later in the season as well.

When fishing the north shore of Long Island, it should be noted that a good part of this shore line is private property and permission from the owner is necessary in order to fish. However, the entire western shore of Little Neck Bay is open to fishermen. In addition, almost all the town beaches in the Manhasset Bay, Hempstead Harbor, and Centre Island Reef areas are open to fishermen until May 30th. After May 30th, only night fishing is permitted (except Little Neck Bay, which remains open). Prime time for fishing in these areas is at night, two hours before and after high water.

It should be pointed out that in most of the locations which I have mentioned, fishing at low tide is impossible. These are shallow reefs and bays and, quite frankly, there is very little water left in them during the periods of low water. Therefore, I would suggest checking your tide charts before planning any fishing trips to these areas.

Equipment needed for this type of fishing can be kept to a minimum. All that is needed is a bait box (capable of holding one to two dozen worms), and a small canvas bag that can be slung over your shoulder. This bag can be used to hold some extra hooks, sinkers, a knife, rag, sand spike, lures, light and a fish stringer. In addition, you should also bring along a small hand gaff. While most of the fish you will encounter will range from shorts to just a few pounds, occasionally, a "teen" will seize your offering and you'll be glad that you had the forethought to bring along a gaff. It should be pointed out that chest waders are not mandatory with this form of fishing, but if you have them, I'd suggest taking them along. If you do not own a pair, then wear at least a short pair of rubber boots. Wading is not necessary, but just being at the water's edge, you can't help getting your feet wet no matter how careful you are. In April, nothing is more uncomfortable than standing around on a cool night with wet feet while waiting for action. It can get mighty cold in early spring, especially at night (which is prime time for bass), so dress accordingly. It's easier to take off that extra sweater or sweatshirt if it's mild, than it is to suffer due to a lack of protection.

After a long winter of inactivity, this spring bassing is a great way to get your season under way, and often, long before other striper fans have dusted the cobwebs from their pet casting rod.

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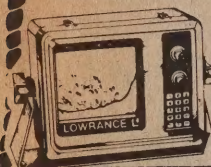
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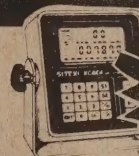
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COUNT ON LING

by Matt Ahern

Over the years, the often maligned ling has always been a safe bet for New York Bight anglers.

I wish I had a dollar for every ling I've caught over the years and I wish I had another dollar for the many times old pot-belly has saved the day for many an enterprising party boat skipper. Either way, I'd have more than enough shekels to buy that nice new Chevy I saw on TV.

Good old ling, friend to those of us who will accept him on his own terms, ever willing to bite, always ready to brighten the fisherman's day if given but half a chance. Friend to old-timer and beginner alike—truly, there is no fish in our local waters quite like the ling.

By now I can almost hear you saying: "What's with this old guy? Has he finally flipped his wig? I knew it was bound to happen sooner or later. Why—he sounds exactly as if he loves those fish." Brother, you hit it right on the head. I certainly do "love" those ling. And it isn't because we go back 60 years or so, for if this were it I would then have to include cod, fluke, porgies, sea bass, blackfish, etc.

No, ling have a special place in my fishing heart, for they were the first fish I caught on my first party boat trip when I was knee-high to that proverbial grasshopper. And not only that: when I think of those long gone days and my association with old pot-belly, I feel an awakened pang of regret and remorse—regret that I am no longer 60 years younger; and remorse over the fact that conditions were so bad those days that it took a fish like the ling to keep the wolf at bay for so many of my generation. Except you who lived through those days, there is absolutely no way you can know how it was. Therefore, it is easy to understand why the ling was so important for so many fishermen at that time, and why I feel as I do.

But enough of this morbid stuff for now. This is neither the time nor place for it. What we want to do now is see what makes old pot-belly tick; and also how to get a handle on the best way to put our eager friend in the bucket.

Let's start from scratch.

Despite the pressures put upon them by the now departed foreign fishing fleet, ling are still plentiful for sinker bouncers along the south shore of Long Island. They did hit low spots here and there during the past ten years, but gradually ling are rebuilding their stocks. As bad as those "low spots" were at times, I never failed to



Though not very impressive in appearance, ling have saved many a day for open boat anglers and skippers alike.

put ling in the bucket—it just took longer to do it.

During those Depression years noted before, most fishermen went ling fishing as often as possible, especially in springtime. It was at this time when even a novice could do no wrong. The party boat fare during those days was two dollars (a hard-to-come-by two dollars, I might add). And for those two dollars the fisherman expected to catch enough fish to supply his large family with seafood for several weeks (surplus fish were either given away to those less fortunate, or salted down for future use). Needless to say, ling seemed always willing to cooperate with this desire, and fishermen had loads of fun filling butter tubs and potato sacks to overflowing.

Daily catches of 80 to 100 ling per fisherman were common, especially around the old Ambrose Lightship Grounds. Fair weather or foul, the ling were there. To the present day, these grounds still produce—although I'll admit it has been a long time since I caught 100 ling in a day from this area. (I think 33 was the highest for one day during the past 10 years.) I will say this though: no one goes home fishless when ling are around!

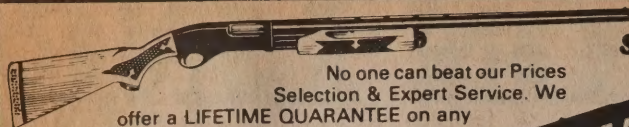
Habit and tradition die hard and through the years ling have been the subject of undeserved remarks. Names such as "Coney Island trout," "sewer trout," "garbage guts" and so on are still heard today. In fact, many contemporary fishermen hold ling in disrepute and consider them on par with eels in this respect.

But this is entirely unfair and is usually done by poorly informed fishermen. Ling, for instance, are definitely not scavengers. Their diet consists of other fish, crabs, clams, shrimp, and lobsters, which certainly puts them in a far different class than that of scavenger.

The cause of these unfair remarks is usually brought about by fishermen who happen to catch ling during July and August and carelessly allow them to lie unprotected from the blazing sun. Any fish to treated is guaranteed to quickly become a smelly mess of mush, unfit for human consumption. Especially does this apply to the soft-fleshed ling. It isn't the ling's fault, of course, but his good name suffers because of this carelessness.

Then there is the fisherman who has heard all these remarks, has agreed in retrospect, and therefore makes the statement that he wouldn't

(Continued on next page.)



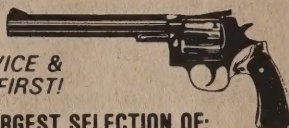
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be caught dead while fishing for ling. This fisherman should put his prejudices aside and go out ling fishing. He is sure to be of different mind when he returns home.

Fortunately for all concerned, ling are prolific spawners—as are all members of the cod family—and shedding two million eggs is no trouble for a good-sized mama ling. Apparently spawning takes place from mid-summer to early fall in the deeper, cooler offshore grounds, for few ling are caught inshore during August and September when waters become warm. So if you want ling during these months you will have to locate their offshore residences.

Some authorities believe ling spawn in spring—and this I cannot understand. I have caught many a spawn-filled ling in July when fishing the Cholera Banks "high-spots." Many an old-time ling-jerker will bear me out on that. In fact, ling were so thick on the Cholera Bank at one time that we had to fish them out to get to the sea bass we all wanted so much. And this, too, many an old-timer will agree is right.

Ling range throughout the deeper water of the Gulf of Maine, out to, and including, the southern sweep of the Grand Bank, thence as far south as Delaware and Maryland, with the largest concentration being off Long Island. The entire coast of New Jersey is fertile ling ground, especially north of Long Branch and into New York Bight proper.

Party boats from these areas take tons of ling in season. During early spring, ling are the mainstay of many party boats. Some skippers even shun the excellent mackerel fishing available at that time. Their patrons would rather catch ling than mackerel.

Many fishermen who have caught ling in the normally deep water in which they live, liken them to an old boot as they reel in. But let these fellows fish ling off Sandy Hook's Cedar Grounds in early May and they will quickly change their minds. The water in this area is shallow compared to offshore and old pot-belly puts up quite a scrap. One would never guess this is the same fish one remembers catching in the hundred foot depths. (Keep this in mind this spring if the opportunity presents itself.)

Ling are often caught on mud or sand bottoms, rocky areas, and around sunken wrecks, in water ranging from 50 to 90 feet in depth. They also seem to share the same curiosity streak of sea bass, for lobstermen often find both in their baitless pots. Many of the popular local wrecks, such as the Stone Barge, Coal Barge, Steel and C.O.D. wrecks hold large populations of ling in late May and into the entire month of June. Most of these areas produce ling until the warm water of late summer drives them offshore.

While most ling fishing is done from party boats, some fellows who have a seaworthy boat might like to try it on their own; and for these

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fellows I offer the following information.

When fishing open bottom (such as the Ambrose Light area), and when conditions allow, it is a good idea to drift. While it is true ling are not a schooling fish, they do gather in great numbers in one feeding area. Once the first few are taken, the fishing will begin in earnest and you should load up. Anchoring over such an area and chumming with broken skimmer will also get ling in a feeding frenzy.

Rigging for ling is simplicity in itself, for no elaborate tackle is needed. The usual medium-weight boat rod one would use for deep water porgy and sea bass fishing, equipped with a conventional revolving spool reel filled with 150 yards of 20 or 30 pound test monofilament, will suffice. (When I try ling fishing in fall I always use 30 pound test because of the likelihood of latching on to a cod.)

As for hooks, my preference has long been a 3/0 or 4/0 Sproat. If you're interested, the style number is 3366 and it is put out by Mustad. I found out years ago that it isn't necessary to use the heavier long-shanked hooks such as Carlisle or Kirby. Ling have no teeth to speak of and most will be jaw-hooked (if you're on your toes, that is).

An eight ounce bank sinker will be heavy enough under most conditions (you can sometimes get away with less weight when fishing wrecks), but don't overload your terminal tackle

with excess weight; ling aren't the greatest fighters in the world, so finely balanced tackle will give you more sport.

While fishing open bottom, some fishermen tie two hooks tandem-fashion and place them about two inches above the sinker and let it go at that. I find it is best to tie in a third hook about three feet higher. Ling and cod being members of the same family are often found on the same grounds, and recognizing this fact has brought many a pool for the ling fisherman, myself included. Besides, there's always the chance of collecting a few nice whiting from time to time.

Ling will accept a variety of baits; there isn't anything that swims which will not make a suitable offering. Skimmer clam can't be beaten; strips of bergall, or of ling itself, will put fish in the bucket. Ling bite better at night (if such a thing is possible) and it is then when strips of squid will prove to be the superior bait. You should also use squid on occasion during daytime—especially in June when the vanguards of fluke are moving inshore. Remember that pool!

As noted before, ling are soft-fleshed, meaning they won't keep in good condition for any length of time in hot weather unless certain precautions are taken. They should be protected from the sun as much as possible, gutted as the opportunity presents itself—certainly as soon as

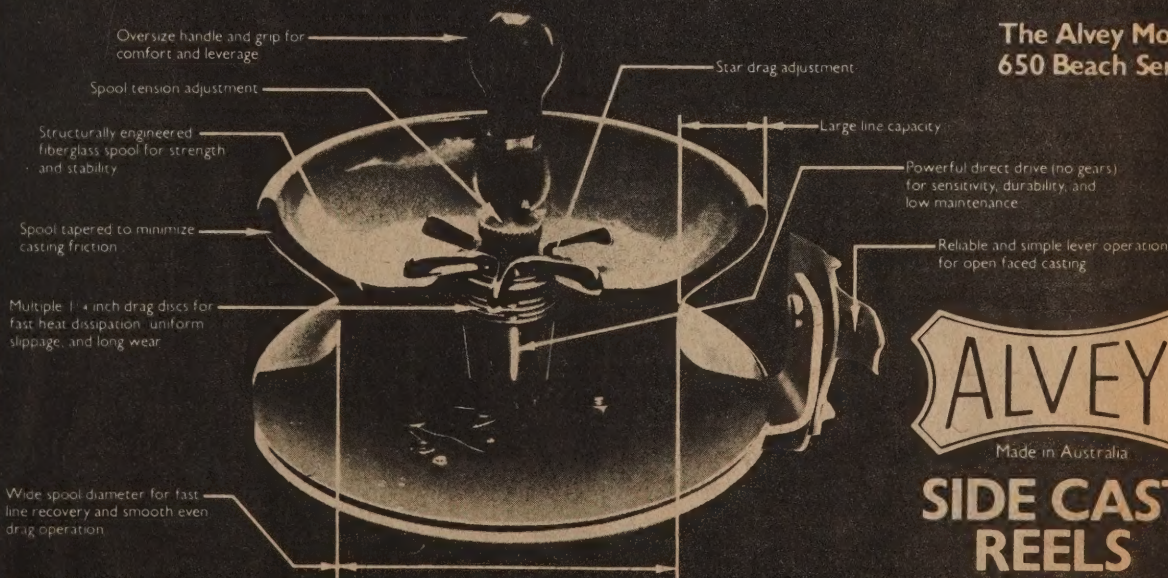
the fishing is over—and washed thoroughly in sea water. (Use fresh water sparingly on saltwater fish!) They should then be placed in any type cotton, or similarly porous bag. Stay away from the plastics, as these have a tendency to retain heat and will hinder the necessary drainage needed to keep the fish cool. Plastic bags may be used later when you return to the dock, providing the trip home is not too long. Fish treated in this manner will remain firm and fresh for many hours.

Ling have tasty white meat, much like the cod's. It freezes well, as do all bottom fish. Two or three ling-fishing trips should supply one with several months of delicious eating. The larger ling can be turned into choice fillets, and the smaller ones pan-fried to mouth-watering goodness. A method we use here at home is to brush the fillet with either mayonnaise or sour cream, dip into flavored bread crumbs, and pop into the frying pan. Delicious!

This spring hunt up a ling-fishing party boat and give it a try. I'm sure you'll wonder why you hadn't gone before now—so many fellows tell me this that I can almost guarantee it will happen to you. And you are sure to discover why that long-ago old-timer was so willing to part with his hard-earned Depression dollars. You'll also discover why ling could be counted on to save the day for all these years.

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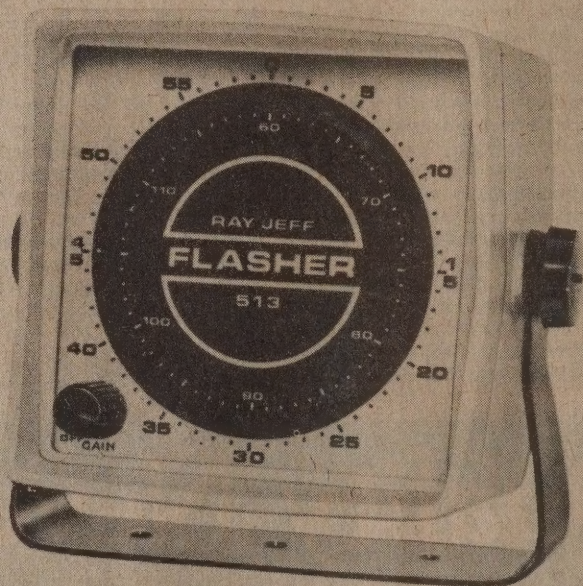
Part Three — *by Al Ristori*

The author continues his review of the electronics market with a further look at flashers and a peek at water temperature gauges.

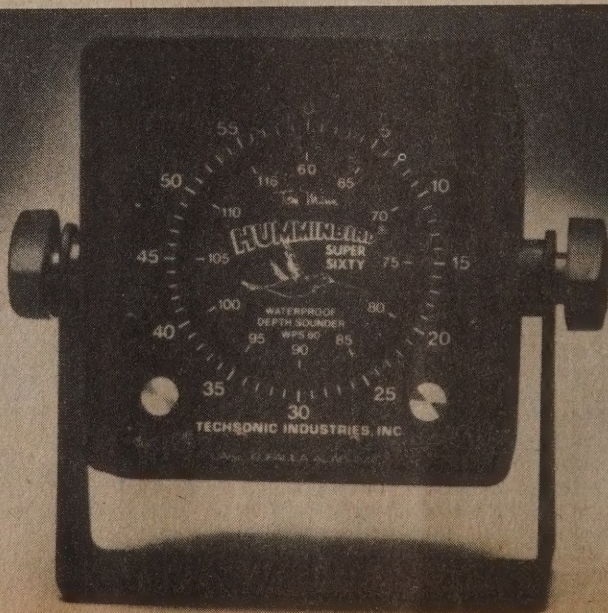
Continuing with flashers, we find Ray Jefferson out with some new models. Featured this year is the Model 30 SmartSonar, incorporating many of the latest advances in microcircuitry. SmartSonar reads to 30 and 100 feet on a pair of independent scales. Depth range changes are made without changing motor speed, as this unit uses a simple angle drive that does away with complicated gear systems that are subject to wear or breakage. New electronic digital memory circuits called shift registers are the secret of the unit's ability to change range without altering motor speed. Also new is the 6020 portable beeper flasher which reads down to 120 feet and features an adjustable beeper for any depth from 3 to 59 feet. The LED flasher is easy to read in sunlight, and the entire unit comes in a compact, easy-to-carry case. The angler who fishes from a boat with a very small console should look into the new 513 permanent-mount flasher. That unit is only 4½ inches square and will fit into some tight spots. It features scales of 0 to 60 and 60 to 120 feet.

Aqua-Meter's Cheater flashers provide great power output and fine resolution. The Cheaters have 0 to 40 foot scales that are calibrated in six inch increments for pinpoint accuracy. All put out 1500 watts and have 100 percent solid state silicon semi-conductor circuitry. A three-year warranty is supplied, and the units will operate to over 50 mph. The Cheater Classic has an audible alarm and digital electronic motor speed control in all ranges for the greatest accuracy and reliability. With additional ranges for 0 to 100 and 0 to 240 feet, the Classic lists for \$355. The \$320 Super Cheater has an additional 0 to 240 foot scale, while the \$285 Cheater has only the 0 to 40 foot range. The new Aqua Probe flashers provide 1000 watts of power and three ranges. The \$240 model 363 goes to 200 feet, while the \$300 365A gets down to 360 feet.

Humminbird has reintroduced a very popular and inexpensive model dropped in 1981. By popular demand, the Super Sixty is once again in the line with its six-inch target separation on a 0 to 60 foot scale. Like the other



Ray Jeff 513



Humminbird Super Sixty

Humminbird units—it's completely waterproof. A new model is the Super Thirty II, with 0 to 30 and 0 to 60 foot scales and four-inch target separation. Humminbird flashers operate to 65 mph, and carry a one-year full warranty with a guaranteed three-day turnaround time.

Si-Tex has one of the most unique flashers in the three-color readout FL-5. Strong echoes from bottom are displayed in red, while intermediate echoes are in orange or green depending on the strength of the returning signal. Five depth ranges in feet or fathoms provides capabilities all the way from 0 to 20 feet down to 100 fathoms. An audible alarm is yet another feature of this top-of-the-line unit that lists for \$299. The two-color FL-3 has a 0 to 80 scale in feet or fathoms and is \$40 cheaper. The bottom echo is in red and the weaker fish signals in yellow. The FL-2 is a dual range (0 to 40 and 0 to 120 feet) unit with alarm that lists for \$219. The new Si-Tex DL-1 digital depth sounder displays depths from 2½ to 199 feet in large black liquid-crystal numbers. The brighter the sun, the more the numbers stand out.

VDO Instruments has introduced an entirely new depth sounder system. The Modis 120 features microprocessor controls and affords the owner three separate alarm functions for depth, contour navigation and anchoring. The microprocessor prevents false alarms due to swells or tides and also screens out spurious echoes caused by air bubbles, marine growth and engine malfunctions. A visual reading is provided which can be compared to the level in a glass of water. A scanning of the pictorial display gives the operator an immediate visual impression of the water depth. The quasi-analog display produces a horizontal line in the water glass indicating intermediate echoes such as those produced by fish. The Modis 120 system lists for \$750 and provides accuracy within four inches down to 132 feet.

Datamarine's Capree Division produces inexpensive depthsounders for small boats. The \$229 Cadet is a digital which operates on a self-contained nine-volt battery with an average life of 175 hours. Even the transducer for this unit is pencil-sized, and can be installed through-hull or mounted on the transom. The Capree Ensign goes for another \$40, adds backlighting for night use, and may also be connected to a 12-volt system. Both of those units read from 2 to 100 feet, with depths below 10 feet in fractions. The \$329 Capree Commander has a range of 2 to 200 feet and an audible alarm that can be set to sound at 4 or 10 feet. Power is supplied from the boat's 12-volt system. The Datamarine LX200 digital depthsounder is somewhat similar, but the International Offshore 3000 is quite different—being a computer-based depthsounder with great precision to 999 feet. The audible alarm can be set to eight

(Continued on next page.)



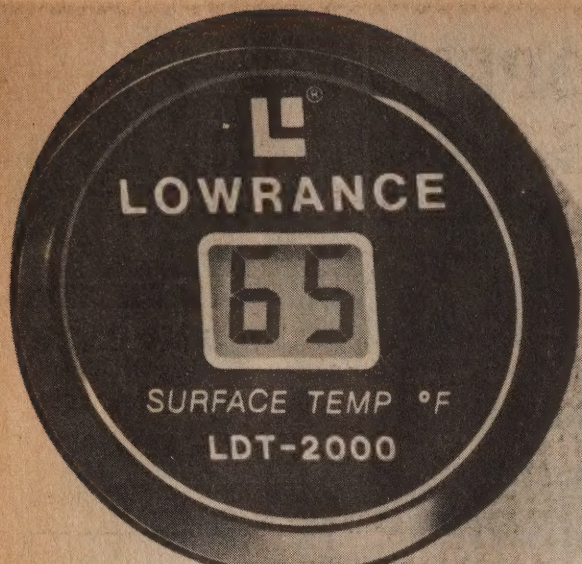
Si-Tex FL-5 color flasher



Capree Commander Depthsounder



Morrow Fish Ray



Lowrance LDT-2000



Byrd Sur-Temp

discreet depths in this \$750 list unit, and remotes can be added for \$295 each.

Southern Marine Research (SMR) is proud of the Striker flashers. The SX-3000 is ideal for shallow waters as it features a large 0 to 30 foot scale graduated in 1/2 foot increments. The inner scale provides a 0 to 180 foot range for deeper waters. Another 40-watt unit is the SX-6000 (0 to 60 feet and fathoms), while the SX-12000 is a

100-watt machine with 0 to 60 feet and 0 to 120 fathom ranges. All feature a built-in sun shade and glare proof dial plus audible alarm and ABS corrosion-proof cabinet. The Striker SX-6000A Super Sounder is a step up from the 6000 with a neon argon flash and a very important Bottom Trak anchor alarm function. This unit can be programmed for minimum and maximum depth ranges at anchor. The info is stored with the machine off

but should your boat swing into shallow or deep water, or the anchor pull free, the audible alarm will warn you of the problem. SMR also boasts of the Striker SD-100X Digital Super Sounder with Clear Sea circuitry to eliminate false readings in critical shallow waters. The ranges are 0 to 600 feet and fathoms, and an alarm is included.

As previously noted, Aquasonic has taken over the old Garcia electronics

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and made some improvements. Relatively inexpensive flashers include the permanent-mount AE360 with 60 foot scale and AE300 with 100 foot scale. The Portable AE2000 gets down to 100 feet and uses a 30 degree transducer. The new AE360D in-dash flasher has a 0 to 60 foot scale and reads at speeds up to 60 mph. Those with Garcia electronics can look to this source for parts and service.

Morrow's unique hand-held Fish Ray digital depthfinder has a companion this year in the Dive Ray for skin divers. The new version is housed in a high-impact seamless plastic case, fully gasketed and pressure tested to 100 feet. The bright yellow Dive Ray features near neutral buoyancy for ease of operation underwater, has a range of 99 feet, comes with a wrist strap, operates on two 9-volt batteries, and is totally rust-proof. Also new from Morrow is the S-3 shallow water flasher, a 30-foot model with six-inch resolution.

Sonic Wave features the 630 flasher with ranges of 0 to 60 and 0 to 120 feet that provides accurate readings up to 70 mph. The Apelco Division of Raytheon offers three Ranger flashers with maximum depths in feet corresponding to the model numbers—120, 360, and 600. All have an adjustable depth alarm from 3 to 50 feet and list from \$239.95 to \$259.95. Unimetrics has three new Sea Hawk flashers providing a choice of ranges. The SH-3600 gets down to 360 feet and has an audible alarm.

Water Temperature Gauges. There is a lot of selection in this field, and many anglers are catching on to the importance of knowing surface temperature. All offshore species are especially sensitive to temperatures and you can save yourself a lot of wasted time and effort by staying out of water not suitable for the species you're seeking.

Dytek Labs has several units at various price levels, even including the sophisticated 1500 with digital print-out for a permanent record. The Lowrance LDT-2000 Surface Temperature Gauge utilizes a liquid crystal display (LCD) for easy reading in bright daylight and a backlight for night use. That in-dash unit requires only a 2½ inch diameter hole. Ray Jefferson's model 290 accurately reads surface temperature to .1 of 1 degree F. in a range from 32 to 90 degrees. Byrd, the famous trolling motor company, has come out with the Byrd Sur-Temp, an in-dash temperature gauge with recessed digital read-out that's easy to see up to 25 feet away even in bright sunlight. Backed by a one-year warranty, it lists for \$129.95. The Lowrance lists at \$139 and the Ray Jeff for \$199.95—but steep discounts are available on all water temperature gauges. The new Humminbird STG reads from 0 to 100 degrees F and looks like a good buy in the same price range.

Next week we'll take a quick look at all other common electronics, including Loran C and marine radios.

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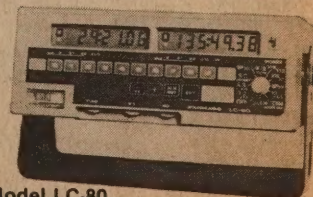
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VOLVO PENTA

THE POWER CHOICE

DAZZLE A COD

by Gerald Hahn

The glitter of a diamond jig is pure poison to Mr. Whiskers when the conditions are right.

Ask any New Yorker about diamond jigs and he will bend your ear with tales of bluefishing. Some may even mention weaks or stripers. But there are times when these marvelous lures can even be put to use for groundfish, specifically for cod.

Although codfish are considered the kind of lumbering bottom fish that one usually attracts with bait, they will take a well-placed diamond jig when conditions are right. Cod become most aggressive when the water is neither icy cold nor excessively warm, and, of course, when baitfish resembling the jigs are abundant. In the northern part of New England, for example, both of these conditions exist for a prolonged period, from April through November and in such places as Boothbay Harbor, Kennebunkport and Portland, Maine, party boat fishermen never have to contend with the pungent aroma of skimmer clams. They jig for cod as much as we jig for blues. However, codfish anglers, working their way south through New Hampshire and Gloucester, fish "half-n-half," that is, they get the fish started with bait, and then if cod are in the mood, fishermen switch to artificials. By the time codfishermen reach the Rhode Island to New Jersey area, the reverse seems to be the case. Here, anglers catch cod primarily with bait. Nonetheless, even New Yorkers fish for cod with diamond jigs, mostly during the spring and falls runs, from mid-April through May and again from mid-October to mid-December.

Diamond jigging for cod is not quite the same as diamond jigging for blues, however. In the first place, blues are swift predators, pelagic fish accustomed to swimming freely through various depths, and consequently, jigging for them usually involves fast-retrieve reels, such as the 4:1 Penn Jigmaster or the 4.2:1 Daiwa 50H, which can get the lure moving as quickly as possible. Moreover, since bluefish can be found at virtually any level of water, various jigging methods are employed. For instance, bottom-hugging blues are taken with the lure lowered to the ocean bottom, quickly retrieved for about five revolutions of the reel handle, and dropped back to the bottom again, a method that mimics the burrowing action of sand eels. Blues working their way through mid-water levels are taken by another



A cod taken on a ViKe Jig comes aboard in a web of tangled lines.

method, called "squidding." This involves lowering the jig, as before, but then quickly retrieving it straight up, until a blue intercepts it. Thereafter, the jig can be worked at that level in the same way. On the other hand, surfacing blues are handled with long casts beyond the churning water and instantly performed retrieves with the rod aimed downwards. Despite their difference, these diamond jigging methods for bluefish share one thing in common, and that is a quick retrieve performed with a high speed reel.

By contrast, codfishing with diamond jigs is performed primarily with the rod and not the reel. Except for pollock, most members of the cod family, including haddock and silver and red hake, stay on the ocean floor and, consequently, the jig must be maintained on or near the bottom at all times. Moreover, since these fish are fairly slow, the jig works better when its movement is arrested somewhat. This is achieved by dropping the jig to the bottom, engaging the reel, and then raising and lowering the rod, so that the jig rises and flutters back hypnotically, within

three or four feet of the bottom. Experienced cod jiggers employ a double-pump method; that is, they raise the rod to eleven o'clock, lower it to ten o'clock, raise it again to eleven o'clock, and finally drop it to the bottom with a distinct thud. When cod are densely crowded under an anchored boat, this method will take them. But if the boat is drifting, a more effective method first involves casting the jig. Then, after waiting for the jig to strike bottom, the angler works it in slowly, raising and lowering the rod and taking in the slack, until the jig settles alongside other fishermen's lures. Before then, a cod should have pounced on the jig; but if not, the angler resorts to the first method before trying again.

It was mentioned earlier that pollock are not exclusively groundfish, and therefore, anglers concentrating on them have several jigging options. One is to fish for these "Boston blues" the same way as for bluefish, and that is by manipulating the jig with the reel, anywhere between the bottom and mid-depths. Although pollock are indeed the sportiest members of the cod family,

their fighting ability has been over-rated; they are not as vicious as chopper blues. Then again, pollock grow to much larger sizes than blues, and tangling with a 20 to 40 pounder is no mean feat. But if you really want to catch pollock in Long Island, the best way is to add a teaser about a yard above the jig. A teaser is simply a large hook, such as an 8/0 O'Shaughnessy, Siwash, or Limerick adorned with a surge tube. Add a barrel swivel to the eye of the hook and attach it to a dropper loop on the fishing line. Nine times out of ten, if pollock are around, they'll go for the teaser. In fact, so will many cod, for the same reason that a teaser attracts many game fish—it resembles a small baitfish trying to escape from a larger one.

Another notable difference between codfish and bluefish jigging is the size of the lure employed. Cod are often taken in much deeper water than blues, and being larger, too, they are more responsive to heavy diamond jigs. Even the largest bluefish can be taken with a mere three ounce jig, and most of the time six ounces is the maximum you will need. In the rough currents of the Race, near Fishers Island, or in the deep water south of Block Island it is necessary to use an 8 or 10 ounce jig; and interestingly enough, at these places, most of the teen-sized choppers are taken with baits such as whole bunker or herring. On the other hand, cod are often taken in water so deep you need a jig weighing a pound or more to take them. By example, last year in Maine I jigged for cod at Jeffries Ledge in 320 feet of water and resorted to 14 and 16 ounce jigs. Similarly, Cashes Ledge ranges from 25 foot shoals to 600 foot dropoffs, and Georges Bank, from 120 to 350 feet. An offshore wreck, such as Nantucket's Andrea Doria, to which some Long Island boats make long excursions, lies in 225 feet of water. Other Long Island boats make special trips to deep water wrecks and ledges on the south shore, and here, too, heavier jigs must be employed just to hold bottom. Most local cod trips are in depths of 100 to 180 feet, which is deep enough, and an 8 to 12 ounce jig is adequate. And there are times when codfishing is performed in only 60 to 80 feet of water. The point is, unless you know specifically where the fishing is going to take place, it's wise to bring a great range of jigs, especially the larger ones.

While many codfish anglers favor the Norwegian and ViKe pattern jigs (three-sided, asymmetrically curved, highly polished, and terminating with a large treble hook adorned with the stub of a surge tube cut in fringes), standard diamond jigs such as those made by Ava, Bridgeport and TriFin take many cod, particularly at Montauk. Ava also makes a ViKe type jig, by the way.

Whether or not the bright finish on these jigs, and the colored tubing,

make any difference is debatable, however. Captain Dick Brindle of the Indian, a party boat at Kennebunkport, has been making some interesting experiments over the past few years. A codfishing specialist, he has had the Norwegian-type jigs cast in lead, which, as every sinker bouncer knows, soon turns dull gray. Brindle had some of these jigs painted various colors, from the highly touted red to all the spectral hues, and even black and white. The treble hooks were also mounted with different colored tubing. He fished the plain lead jigs, the painted ones and the chrome finished ones side-by-side, for several years, and detected no significant difference in the catch ratio. "The cod can't see a blessed thing down there," says Brindle. What, then, attracts the cod to the jig? Sound? Vibrations? "Neither," he says, "Luminescent micro-organisms on the bottom," the kind New York surf-casters often see blinking their eerie green lights on dark nights. When the jig hits the ocean floor, the luminescent organisms scatter and create a blinding light around the jig. Seeing the jig's outline momentarily, the cod pounce on it. Then again, one can argue that a jig with a mirror-finish presumably will reflect this light more intensely than lead or paint. At any rate, there's no question that many cod are caught with diamond jigs throughout the Northeast. But it does make me wonder about those bluefish we so often catch in 120 feet of water, right off the bottom. What are they seeing?

Depending on where you fish for cod in Long Island, whether locally or on one of those marathon trips, you should adjust the tackle accordingly. If the fishing is going to take place in less than 150 feet of water, you can use a Jigmaster or any comparable reel spooled with 40 lb. test monofilament and an eight foot boat rod with a stout tip. If you're heading to deeper water and swifter currents, a 4/0 reel such as the Penn Senator, spooled with 50 lb. test is better, and so is a longer nine foot rod for extra casting distance, leverage and strength against a 50 lb. cow. In fact, many codfish anglers find that dacron, with its low stretch characteristic, more effective than monofilament in depths over 200 feet. A monofilament shocker of around 50 lb. test is added to the dacron. The shocker should be long enough to extend from the lure beyond the rod tip to about half a dozen turns on the spool. This way, the lower visibility and quicker sinking rate (of mono) is combined with the greater strength of dacron.

By all means, bring along the usual assortment of bottom rigs the next time you intend to go codfishing. But plan a trip, as well, during the spring or fall runs, or on an extended offshore trip, when wetting a line with a diamond jig may widen your horizons. No doubt, you will soon agree that blues are not the only fish dazzled by diamonds.

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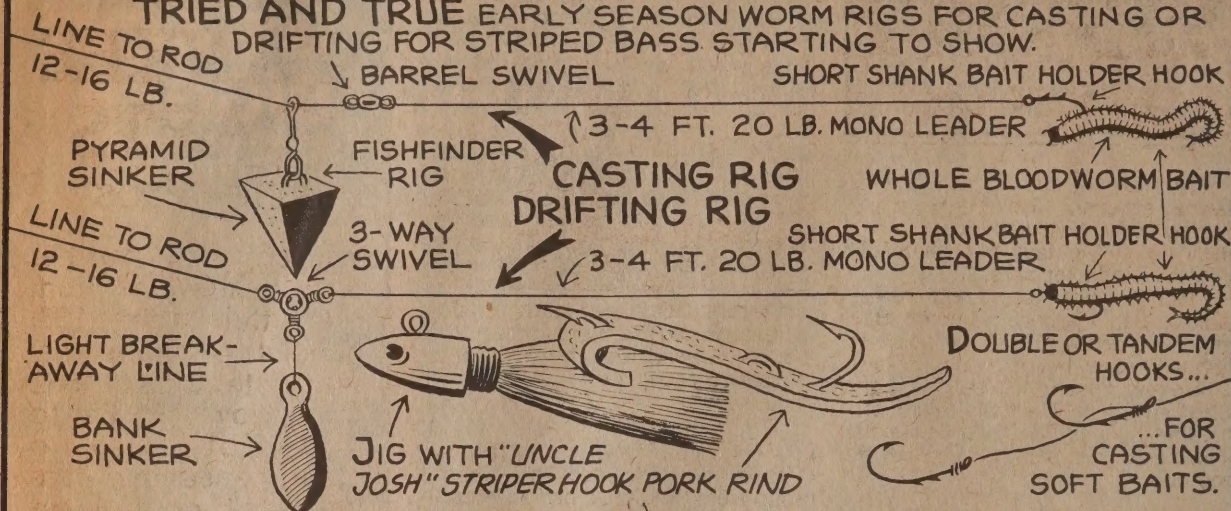
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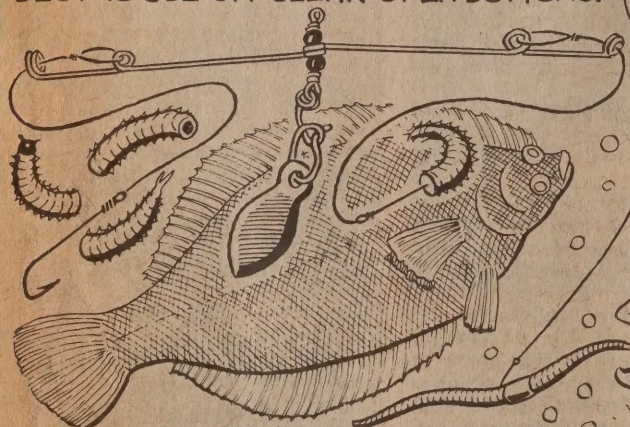
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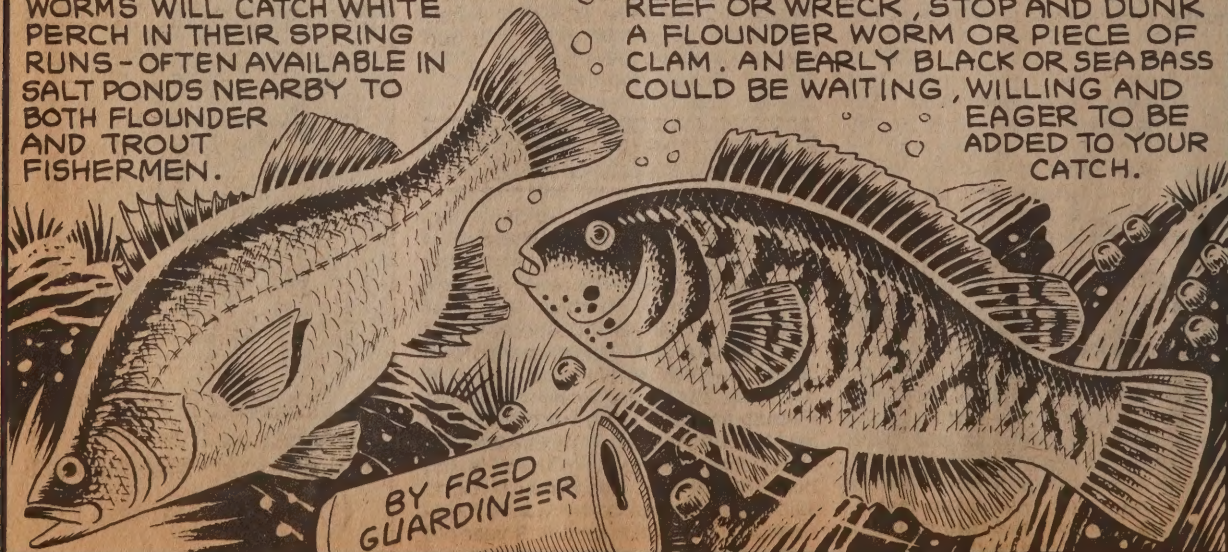


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BY FRED
GUARDINEER

East End REPORT

with Bob Lee

The flounder fishing can only be termed excellent all over the east end. Spring cod are virtually leaping over the rails at Montauk but weather is still the big factor here.

Flounder are just about everywhere, Sag Harbor, Hampton Bays and Shinnecock. These are nice fat fish with many in the 2 pound range, plus a few 3 pound fish being caught. Codfishing at Cartwright is still holding up very well. Big blackfish and pollack are being taken with the cod also.

MONTAUK

Capt. Bud Dorman, skipper of the 6 man limit, open boat **Waxed** based at **Montauk** reports that the codfishing is excellent. Bait and diamond jigging are providing lively action, on and around the Cartwright grounds. Anglers who work at it can go home with a dozen or more cod. Pollack and big blackfish are also being caught. The **Waxed** now sails daily from Montauk Marine Basin. See L.I.F. ad for details.

Capt. Paul Forsberg, skipper of the **Montauk** based **Viking Fleet** reports fantastic spring codfishing at the Cartwright and C.I.A. Grounds. Full bags of cod in the 6 to 12 pound range are average and the pool winner is 30 pounds plus. Shawn Dunne of Montauk caught a 62 pound, 4 ounce codfish on April 5, winning a pool worth \$295.00.

Capt. John Potts, skipper of the **Montauk** based charter boat **Blue Fin**



Vincent Goldfinger hefts a 30 lb. class cod taken at Montauk's CIA Grounds on the charter boat "Nostalgia II."

reports great codfishing at the Cartwright grounds. The Goehle group from St. James had 130 cod in the 8 to 10 pound range on Thursday. This fishing group had a few 15 pounders mixed in also. Friday saw the Fitzgerald group from New Jersey with 75 cod in the 8 to 10 pound range with a few 15 pounders mixed in. The Bess group fished on Saturday and they had bigger cod, some over 20 pounds. They had 75 fish for their efforts. Capt. Potts said all the fish took clam baits.

Capt. Mike Albronda, skipper of the **Montauk** based charter boat **Montauk** reports excellent codfishing at the Cartwright grounds. Saturday was the first trip for the Montauk and a group from New Rochelle, NY had 104 cod and giant blackfish. The blacks ran to 10 pounds plus and the cod were in the 12 pound plus class.

Capt. Wayne King skipper of the charter boat **King Wayne** based at **Montauk** reports good codfishing at Cartwright and Frisbees. Saturday saw the Reelers Fishing Club haul 65 cod to 22 pounds over the rail. The clug also caught 46 blackfish to 8 pounds. Sunday, due to the weather, the L & L Construction Co. of N.J. had only a 1/2 day of fishing. This group had 24 cod to 20 pounds.

SOUTH FORK

Capt. Artie Lach, skipper of the **Sag Harbor** based open boat **Wilhelric II** reports great flounder fishing if the weather allows. There are large concentrations of flounder at Cedar Beach, the bar behind Jessups and the Caretakers. Mussels, worms and clams are all effective baits.

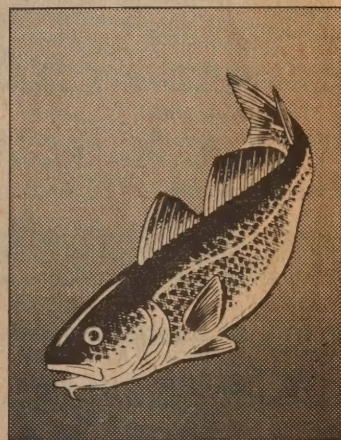
Chris Salb of the **Bayview Marine Fishing Station** in **Sag Harbor** reports great flounder fishing at Gibsons off of Mashomack Point. Mussel is the best in the bait department. Chris said the flounder derby was a huge success. First place went to 9 year old Gerry Foster of Sag Harbor with a 1



This big striper was taken last spring aboard the Montauk charter boat, "Adios."

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Walter Hietlinger and friends with some of the 70 cod they caught on a recent trip aboard the Montauk charter boat, "Vivienne."

pound, 15¾ ounce fish. Second place went to Jeff Batky with a 1 pound, 13½ ounce. Third went to Will Everett, he had a 1 pound, 13¾ ounce. Bob Hebing won the fourth place with a 1 pound, 12¼ ounce flounder. Fifth place went to Glen Paul, with a 1 pound, 12 ounce fish. Sixth place went to Bill Festa. He caught a 1 pound, 12 ounce flounder also. Werner Dziuk took 7th place with a 1 pound, 11½ ounce flounder. First place prize was 2 custom made flounder rods. Second prize was an 8 foot Shakespeare Ugly Stik. Third prize was a Penn Squidder.

L.I.F. Publisher Richard Reina, wife Mary and daughter Christine had an excellent day flounder fishing the Sag Harbor area. The Reina family had 35 flounder to 1 pound, 11 ounces fishing off Gibsons using strictly mussel baits. Hi-hook was daughter Chris and Mrs. Reina had the largest flounder of the day. Rich caught a couple of the smaller flounder.

Thom Speck of **Specks Bait and Tackle in Southampton** reports excellent flounder fishing at Promised Land. Ray Ott and Ray Devlin of Bellrose had a mess of fat flounder the largest tipping the scale at 3 pounds, 2 ounces. Heddy Creek is still holding its own. The top of the tide seems to be best. Thom said Peconics are good also. The South Race, Nassau Point and Cherry Harbor of Gardiner's Island all hold large bodies of flounder.

In **Hampton Bays**, Corr's Mariner's Cove reports good flounder action at Heddy Creek. One of the Marina's boats came back with 140 fish. The Basket area is still holding up very well. Mussel and worm baits fished at the top of the tide do best.



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South Shore REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

Some of the best flounder fishing of the year took place this past week in both Moriches and Great South Bays. Unfortunately, Saturday's threatening weather forecast coupled with Sunday's deluge kept many anglers from cashing in on the action. Those who were able to fish the latter half of last week, along with those who chose to ignore Saturday's forecast, had no trouble stocking the freezer with a healthy supply of flounder filets from either bay.

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Gary Grunseich of Silly Lilly Fishing Station in East Moriches said that big numbers of flatties and the quality of the fish are making for some of the best spring fishing in years. Most boats have been returning with catches ranging between 50 and 150 fish with very few of the flatties under the 1 pound mark. The two hotspots have been buoy 42 and the flats off of Havens Point with both incoming and outgoing water producing fish. To show just what is

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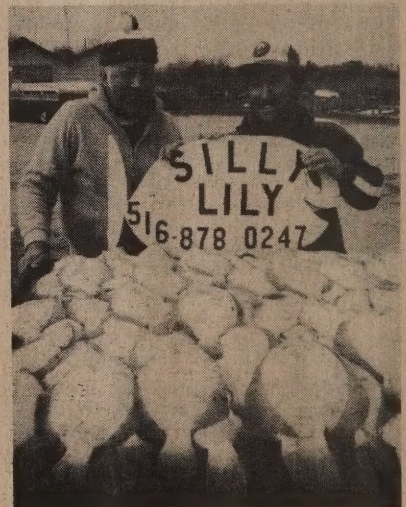
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Flounder fishing really got off the ground in Moriches Bay a couple of weeks back when Johnny Ski and Pete Carey teamed to put away 169 flatties between one and two pounds in the buoy 42 area. The pair did their fishing out of Silly Lilly Fishing Station.

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possible, Pete Carey and Johnny Ski parlayed a load of mussel chum into 159 flounder between 1 and 2 pounds off of Haven's Point during the week. On Friday, Ted and Carolyn Harris teamed with Ron and Wilma Lee to put away 110 fish at buoy 42.

Over at **Skidmore's Fishing Station**, Jim DeVita echoed similar reports of fast action during the latter half of last week. Saturday's easterly breeze cut down the scores somewhat but the few boats that chose to ignore what turned out to be a faulty weather forecast, returned with good catches of big flounder. Again, buoy 42 and Haven's Point headed the list of places to fish and while both tides are producing, Jim thought that the fastest action has been on the last of the flood. He also added that heavy chum is a must.

"Plenty of fish but not many fishermen," said Nick of **Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station**. He felt many anglers are being turned off by bad weather forecasts but noted that rain was forecast for nearly every day last week and never did arrive until Friday. Best scores in this part of the Bay are being made at buoy 27 and off the "Brown House." Bigger fish off of the latter but more at buoy 27 according to the liveryman.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Great South Bay flatfish fans enjoyed a banner week as both open and private boat anglers worked over a large spread of good size fish. LIF subscribers Les and Walter Watkins really put a dent in the flounder population on Saturday as they piled 211 fish up to 2½ pounds into their Chum Pot II while anchored up off of buoy 12, Atlantique. They took the fish on mussels, worms and clams and chummed with both corn and mussels. Most of the catching was done on outgoing and the first of incoming.

Mike Townsend and Pete Defena checked in a catch of 60 flatties from ¾ to 1¾ pounds at **Smokey's Bait and Tackle** in **Bay Shore** on Saturday. They worked the Dickerson Channel area with mussels and worms. Bay Shore Tuna Club member, Ben Bento, needed just a couple of hours one morning this past week to nail 40 nice fish. Carl spent a few hours himself around Dickerson Channel on Thursday afternoon and finished up with 60 flatties.

CAPT. Neil Delaney of the **Bay Shore** open boat **Casey Lee**, labelled this past week's flounder fishing as excellent with lots of fish being taken and the average size of the fish larger than in past years. Hi-hook on Thursday's trip was Hy Brown with 37 keepers. The bulk of the fish being taken are in the 1-1¼ pound size range.

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SAILING DAILY 8A.M.

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Captree open boat skippers were overjoyed with the week's flatfish scores but lamented the small crowds which they blamed on questionable weather forecasts. Sunday of course, was simply a washout.

Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the **Capt. Joseph II** termed the week's fishing "the best in several years." Fish are spread along the whold south side of the bay from buoy 17 to the Sore Thumb. On Wednesday's trip, Carmine Tringali, who is particular about the size of the fish he keeps, wound up hi-hook nevertheless with 57 "keepers". Frank Wheeler copped the pool with a 2 pound, 11 ounce fish. Hi-hook on Friday was Mike Hecht who matched Carmine's 57 fish score of the day before. Peter Menona, Pete, Jr. (age 10) and Steve Petchonila combined for 118 keepers the same day.

Capt. Carl Passero of the **Jib Fleet** called the flatfishing excellent all week long. Carl has been working Clam Pond, Atlantique and Point O' Woods but noted that smaller fish seem to be more prevalent to the east. Most fish ranged 3/4-1 3/4 pounds with the pool each day around the 2 pound mark. Prior to the weekend, Ray Militello and his son R.J., along with John Gutmann, had 60 fish between them. Tom Moon went home same day with two dozen nice fish.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen II** echoed the sentiments of other skippers in describing the excellent fishing underway from Point O' Woods all the way down to the Sore Thumb.

The skipper said nearly everyone leaves the boat with a nice mess of flatties and each day sees some anglers take 25-30 flatties. Clams seemed to have had an edge in the bait department this week.

The **Capt. Rod**, skippered by Capt. George, had a real fine week with the flatties working around W. Island and Clam Pond. A Mr. Gastiger had 30 fish on Friday's trip.

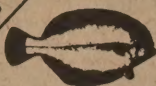
The **Captree** charter boat, **Yankee III**, sailed another one of it's reservation only cod trips on Saturday with good results. Fares averaged 6-7 cod apiece with Diane Reinhold, on her first cod trip ever, taking the pool with a 27 pounder.

Capt. Jack Stoddard of the **Babylon** open boat **Luci III**, spent most of last week nearby in the State Channel between Babylon and Lindenhurst with very good results. Catches ranged between 15 and 20 fish for most fares much of the week. Joe Lang had 22 keepers on Thursday while Scotty Smythe had a 2 1/2 pound pool fish on Friday.

Ski Kochanski of **Augie's Bait and Tackle** in **Babylon** called the flounder action very good right up until the weekend's wind and rain. Among the private boatmen who stopped to check in their catches were Steve Pace, Vin DiMartino and Tom Graziano who nailed 75 fish to 2.3 pounds near Snakehill Channel on Wednesday. Bruce Morabito and a crew of 2 chose

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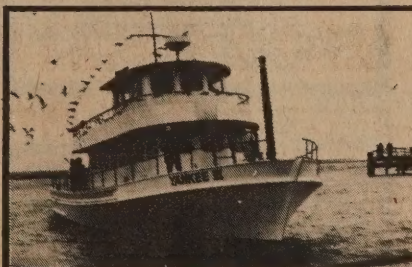
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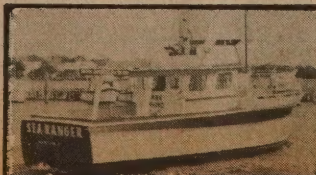
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to do their chumming in the Sore
Thumb area and wound up with 65
fish, most in the 1-1 $\frac{3}{4}$ pound range.
They used sandworms. Fishing from
the Town Dock near the Babylon Pool,
Frank Lernia has been averaging 1/2
dozen nice flounder per trip on
bloodworms.

Mike Andreanni of **Lindenhurst
Bait and Tackle** looked over a catch of
14 flounder made from the Oak Beach
Shore by Al Browneski on Saturday.
Same day, Mark McGinness and
Steve and Anthony Kienzle worked
Bergen Point to the tune of 55 flatties
up to a pound and a half. They used
mussel chum and worms. Al and Sal
Leche chose the Lindenhurst Cut for
their floundering on Saturday. They
wound up with 56 fish to 2 pounds on
mussel chum and bait.

Big flounder have become common-
place just about everywhere when-
ever fishermen can get to them
between the wind and rainstorms of
last week. Numbers of fish have been
skyrocketing and there's very little in
the way of throwbacks. Offshore
codfishing in the general area for
those with the talent and equipment
has been very good for fish from 5 to
the mid 50s in weight. Some decent
weather ought to really make the fish
activity and angler activity explode.

WEST END BAYS/ JONE'S INLET

We learned from **Pop's Fishing
Station** that flounder action was very
good during the week. John "Duck-
boat" Stuehr had 90 keeper flounder
Wednesday on mussels. Red Duenges
was out three times during the week
averaging 80 fish a day. Worms and
mussels were the ticket.

We hear from **Lon Wanser's Bait
and Tackle** that West and Squaw
Islands have been hottest, followed by
Massapequa Cove and Four Corners
for those who fish these areas this
week. Fish are mixed to over 2 lbs.
with worm and mussel best with the
top of incoming, prime water.

From **Nick's Marina** in Merrick
George advises his skiffs have had as
many as 40 flounder per boat, with
best catches being made at Merrick
Point and Rowboat Alley with mussels
working best for fish to 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet ... -0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." -0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK		BREAKWATER HARBOR		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETTS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT		NEWPORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THURS.	8:25	8:40	9:10	9:20	8:55	9:10	9:55	10:05	11:35	11:50	11:45	—	8:20	8:40	4/14
FRI.	9:05	9:20	9:45	10:05	9:35	9:45	10:40	10:50	—	12:20	12:30	12:00	9:05	9:25	4/15
SAT.	9:50	10:05	10:30	10:50	10:20	10:35	11:25	11:35	12:35	1:05	12:40	1:15	9:50	10:10	4/16
SUN.	10:45	11:00	11:20	11:40	11:15	11:35	—	12:15	1:20	1:55	1:30	2:05	10:40	11:05	4/17
MON.	11:40	11:55	—	12:15	—	12:20	12:25	1:15	2:10	2:50	2:20	3:00	11:40	—	4/18
TUES.	—	12:45	12:40	1:15	12:35	1:20	1:25	2:20	3:10	3:55	3:20	4:05	12:05	12:40	4/19
WED.	1:00	1:50	1:45	2:30	1:40	2:25	2:35	3:30	4:15	5:15	4:30	5:15	1:10	1:50	4/20
THURS.	2:10	3:00	3:00	3:45	2:50	3:35	3:45	4:35	5:35	6:55	5:40	6:20	2:15	2:55	4/21

On Sandy Hook		Beach Channel Bridge		Lyme, highway bridge		Sunrise/Sunset	
		J.F.K. Airport		Essex		DAY / DATE:	
				East Haddam		RISE:	
				Higginum Creek		SET:	
						THU. 4/14	
						FRI. 4/15	
						SAT. 4/16	
						SUN. 4/17	
						MON. 4/18	
						TUE. 4/19	
						WED. 4/20	
On Bridgeport		On Willets Point		Moonrise/Moonset		DAY / DATE:	
						RISE:	
						SET:	
						THU. 4/14	
						FRI. 4/15	
						SAT. 4/16	
						SUN. 4/17	
						MON. 4/18	
						TUE. 4/19	
						WED. 4/20	
On Breakwater Harbor		On New York		Moon Phases		DAY / DATE:	
						RISE:	
						SET:	
						THU. 4/14	
						FRI. 4/15	
						SAT. 4/16	
						SUN. 4/17	
						MON. 4/18	
						TUE. 4/19	
						WED. 4/20	
On New London		On Newport		The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES		DAY / DATE:	
						RISE:	
						SET:	
						THU. 4/14	
						FRI. 4/15	
						SAT. 4/16	
						SUN. 4/17	
						MON. 4/18	
						TUE. 4/19	
						WED. 4/20	

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Swinging to the boats out of Freeport, we learn from Captain Richie Kessinger of the **Starstream II** that cod catches have been good all week long, to the tune of couple hundred fish on each of the daily trips. This is for anywhere from 15-20 people and the fish are running 7 to 15 lbs. on bait. On Tuesday's special off-shore cod and pollock wreck trip, fish were taken in the 7-40 lb. range. Bronx angler Jim Szekely was high hook with 26 cod including a 41 lb. Bert Goldberg of Staten Island was satisfied with his 25 cod. There were a few fish in the 30s. A 46 lb. brought a smile to the face of Al Snerge of Brooklyn. Tom Williams of Jersey City, N.J. had a 36 lb. cod and Paul Lapinsky walloped a 29 lb. pollock.

In the flounder category the **Capt. Lou Fleet** enjoyed good floundering this week despite conditions. On Monday Vic Donato, Oceanside had 25 while Charlie Sammut of Brooklyn boated 21 flatties. Wednesday saw John Derosa of Valley Stream with 26 flounder. John returned Thursday and took high hook honors with 49 flounder, while Dave Dreier of New Hyde Park put away 43 nice ones. On Friday, Charlie Martin of Bayside had 41 fish, Patsy Prioulli, Douglaston boated 39 flounder and Ed Otoro, Roosevelt managed 29 flatties. These fish ranged up to 2½ lbs. Saturday's high hook was in the 20s fishing in tougher conditions, but Sunday saw very picky catches in the super rain-storm, but fish up to 2½ lbs. were caught again. This has been mostly in Reynolds Channel. The fleet's half day boat had a good week too, said the skipper with high hooks in the teens, fish to 2 lbs. On Thursday Young Kim had 22 flounder. The fish are definitely around, said Captain Mike.

Aboard the charter boat **Blue Fin II** on Saturday good local floundering was enjoyed for fish to 1 lb. with Helmut Vogg taking the pool and Nat Timon high hook honors.

The **Captain Andy** had good flounder catches through Thursday and from on it was a pick due to weather. Wednesday morning's trip was an absolute slaughter in Jones Inlet on fish to 1¾ lbs. with mussel bait working best.

Working his usual Squaw Island haunts, the **Captain Al** had excellent flounder catches right through Wednesday on fish from 1½ to 2½ lbs. He said fares slugged away Saturday as they did on Sunday in Swift Creek.

The **Freeport Boatmen's Association** had **Capt. II, Atlantic** and **Northstar** out Friday and Saturday working Swift Creek and Garretts Lead and they had fair to good catches on fish averaging 1¼ lbs. The **Super Spray II** has also been picking away at flounder on both of their two half-day trips daily. Slack tide has been best, as have areas without strong running tides.

Saturday aboard the charter boat **Captain Gary** Andrew Solomon and



THE

Fisherman

Skillful Angling Award Program

Any angler who lands a fish meeting the minimum qualifying weight for eligible species will receive a certificate suitable for framing along with a colorful patch in recognition of their accomplishments. All catches must be made in accordance with current International Game Fish Association regulations and weighed at an **Official Fisherman Weigh Station**.

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Winners will be divided into three categories: Overall, Junior Division (youngsters 16 and under), and a Surf Fishing Division in which only striped bass, weakfish and bluefish are eligible. Anglers landing the largest of each species in their division will receive a handsome, engraved plaque denoting their feat.

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Any angler releasing a fish meeting the minimum required weight for the Skillful Angling Award will receive a certificate suitable for framing. Fish may be weighed on any portable scale although estimated weights are acceptable for the Release Award. One certificate per species per angler please.

Al Reinfelder Memorial Award

This coveted trophy is given annually to the angler landing the largest striped bass (boat or surf) entered in the Skillful Angling Award Program.

Rules & Regulations

Fish must be caught on rod and reel in accordance with I.G.F.A. regulations. Contest runs from April 1, 1983 to November 30, 1983. Entries received after December 10, 1983 will be disqualified. An incomplete entry blank may result in disqualification of your catch. The editorial staff of The Fisherman reserves the right to award prizes as they see fit. All decisions are final.

GENESEE

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Eligible Species

Inshore Bottom Fish

Winter Flounder	2
Blackfish	5
Codfish	30
Summer Flounder (Fluke)	5

Inshore Game Fish

Striped Bass	30
Bluefish	15
Weakfish	10
Pollock	20

Offshore Big Game

Bluefin Tuna	200
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Swordfish	100

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THE FISHERMAN

Friends had a fair day's flounder in Reynolds, Jones Inlet and Swift Creek. Andrew had a 1 3/4 lb. pool fish and he was also high hook with 16 flatties.

Shakespeare Rep Greg Nisito one day this past week fished "The Rocks" with pal in his 17 ft. Whaler and they scored with 36 cod from 5 to 12 lbs. and one 6 lb. pollock, all on clam bait.

Fifty-six flounder was the score for Anthony Greco of Baldwin fishing Middle Bay, reported Jack at Arthur Street Marina and all of the boats returned with fish, as far as he saw. Sunday was the only bomb day of the week. Clam and mussel chum seem to be working well on fish to 1 1/2 lbs. on ebb tide. Hottest to Jack's knowledge have been Scow Creek and Garrett's Lead.

Down in Point Lookout, we hear from the Capt. Bill that his two half day trips daily have been producing best in the areas of Reynolds Channel and Garrett's Lead all week on worms, mussels and clams.

A tremendous amount of fish are here, said Marilyn of Ed's Fishing Station, though the weather has been keeping any volume of customers away. However, Ed Puzio and Bruno Graibic put away 105 flounder fishing in the Flats just east of the Point Lookout Bridge, while John Drake and Nipper McDonnell had a hit of 65 fish at buoys 16, 17 and 18 in Reynolds. Fish have been averaging 1 lb. on worms and mussels. Swift Creek is starting to take off and all that is needed is some decent weather at this point.

Aboard the Miss Point Lookout, catches have generally been good to very good, weather and conditions permitting. Last Thursday Mr. Jackson of Merrick took the pool with an outsized flounder. Swift Creek, Jones Inlet and Garrett's Lead have been particularly fruitful (or fishful). Friday morning saw Al Fusco take the pool. On the afternoon trip, Tony Villani bagged the pool in the pouring rain. Saturday's morning trip was very good with 16 flounder being high hook and with Andy Nelson of College Point taking the pool. Saturday afternoon's high hook was 22 fish with Jim Grubner of Bay Shore putting away 14 flounder plus a 2 lb. 6 oz. pool winner.

The Point Lookout Fishing Club was heavily represented on Friday's morning trip.

Aboard the charter boat Marie III on Tuesday good flounder catches were had in the morning in Reynolds, the inlet and Garrett's Leads with fares averaging 8-12 flounder a man. Fish ran 1 to 2 lbs. but were smaller in the inlet on worm, mussel and clam. On the afternoon venture only Garrett's Lead was fished and an excellent catch was taken with fares averaging 1;-12 fish a man, mostly 1 to 2 lbs. Pools have been running 2 1/2 to 3 lbs. Both tides have been producing and the day's catch was roughly 375 fish.

Excellent flounder catches were also reported by Scotty's Fishing

Station until Sunday. Tuesday through Saturday saw catches averaging 40 to 50 per skiff with 65 fish being high hook for the week. Best areas have been Fundy which is north of the loop bridge at Swift Creek, the flats in middle bay and Reynolds Channel between buoys 16 and 19. Both tides are producing, with mussel and worm bait best on 1 to 2 3/4 lbs. A 37 lb. cod was taken in 60 feet of water on open bottom by Andy Pollio.

From the Island Park open boat **Commodore** we hear tell of a "pretty good week" from Captain Clem. Frank Herskowitz had 38 flounder Tuesday, 35 Thursday and 30 Friday. Catches have averaged 20-25 flounder man taken in the shallows and the deeps. Wednesday's catch was off for some reason. Fortunately, the winds did not howl during the week. Mussels have been working best, but worms will soon be top dog. Catches Saturday averaged 15 to 20 fish a man and Garretts Lead and buoys 16 Reynolds have been very good.

Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook tell of the very good flounder catches Saturday in Reynolds, Duck Point and several other Reynolds creeks. The word is that Reynolds Channel is alive with fish to 1 1/2 lbs. Charlie says that the Magnolia Blvd. pier is being repaired at present and may be closed, so be advised. Ron Onorato and Billy Collins working an offshore wreck on Tuesday had 157 cod with the real heavies weighing 51 1/2, 47, 42 40 lbs. and a lot in the 30s.

From **Long Beach Sports Marina** we learn that a group from Lower Bay Anglers Fishing Club of Brooklyn took out four boats Saturday and put a dent in the Reynolds Channel population. Bill MacCorman's party led with 35 flounder from 1 to 2 lbs. fishing from Cement Block to the railroad trestle area using clam and sand worm and mussel chum. John Greener, Valley Stream tapped 30 flatties to 1 1/2 lbs. off the Cedarhurst Yacht Club during the first three hours of outgoing Saturday. Buoys 1 and 3 and Debs at the top of the ebb with sand worms was hot.

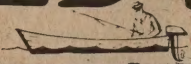
NEW YORK BIGHT

We have flounder in abundance, was the opening comment from **Reynolds Reef Fishing Station** at Atlantic Beach, weather permitting. Al said that the south side of the Reynolds Channel bulkhead SE of the Atlantic Beach bridge in 8 ft. of water has been crawling with flounder. Other hot areas have been the waters off the Long Beach firehouse, Magnolia Pier, Duck Point, all on mussel and worm for very good catches of fish averaging a lb. up to 2 lbs.

Skippy's Tackle in East Rockaway told of the best flounder action that he's seen in years, but you had to fish around the weather this past week. Cement Block, Duck Point and just

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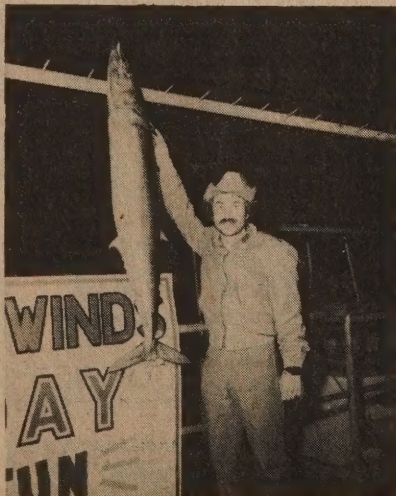
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William Bresalier whipped this 51 lb. wahoo on 20 lb. test while on a fishing vacation to Islamorada in the Florida Keys. Subscriber photo.

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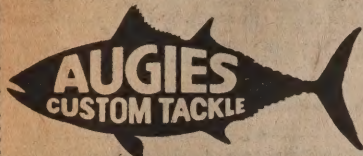
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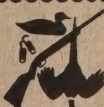
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Ronnie Greco of Mineola poses
alongside the 50 lb. sailfish he
took this past winter while
vacationing in Fort Lauderdale.
Subscriber photo.

about all over are where the fish are said Skippy, with mussels best, followed closely by sand worms. Both tides have been producing. There are lots of sundials around and an eel was hook and line in Reynolds, both indicating that warm water is starting to move in.

In the Jamaica Bay area, we learned from Vi at Cross Bay Bait and Tackle that flounder catches off both North and South Channel Bridges have been good on both tides with fish up to 2 lbs. on worm, clam and mussel bait. Eight-year-old Fred Carofano of Brooklyn bagged three flounder over 1½ lbs. on Friday. A couple of blackfish have also been caught from the bridges.

J-Bay Boat Rental named North-west Point as a hotspot this week for flounder ranging from 1 to 1½ lbs. on bloodworms and mussel chum.

To the west in Sheepshead Bay we learned from Capt. Kevin of the Dorothy B III that he's been having very good flounder catches locally just 5 minutes from his dock. The boat, which is now sailing at 7AM daily instead of 8AM daily, is finding big flatties up to 3 lbs. and catches are averaging 25 fish a man. High hooks are in the 40 to 50 fish range every trip that was made during the week.

Likewise from the flounder boat Elsie K III we heard of very good catches all week. Thursday and Friday best was at Keyport, while Saturday, Sandy Hook Bay was a winner. Even Sunday had excellent catches being made locally off Rockaway Inlet. Very few throwbacks. Sundays' pool fish ran 2.1 oz. and 2 lb. pool fish are being caught every day with mussels working best.

Sal at Stella Maris Bait & Tackle says that flounder are really the name of the game this past week and right now, with very good catches being made locally off Coney Island, the jetty and at Silver Hole on worm, mussel and clam. Some blackfish are now starting to be caught at the wrecks.

Across the big bridge in Staten Island, Lenny at Santo's Sport Shop says that it's mainly flounder activity with Annandale at Arbutus Avenue a good prospect for 3/4 to 1 lb. average flatties. Princess Bay and Great Kills Harbor have also been good and starting now are the Stapleton Piers with a lot of smaller fish. A few short bass have also been taken at Great Kills Park.



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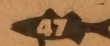
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North Shore REPORT

with Marty Garrell

For the fifth weekend in a row, the combination of faulty weather forecasting and a massive storm cost local anglers a good shot at flounder. In all areas where fish can be reached, the flatfishing is very good to excellent.

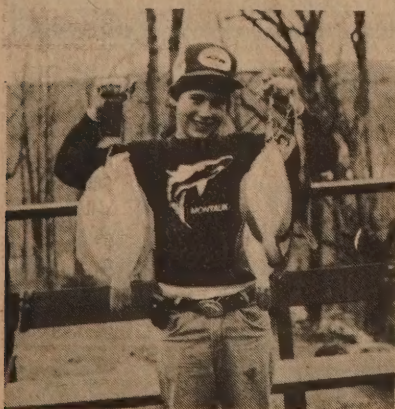
WESTERN SOUND

John's Gun in New Rochelle did a good bait business for shorefishermen working on 1/2 to 3/4 pound flounder, mostly around the Glen Island Casino and other local areas.

Jack's Bait on City Island had no livery boats out over the weekend, but noted good action for local private craft working Orchard Beach Lagoon and Turtle Beach. Local fishermen have seen bass swirls.

The Glen Cove Sport Shop reported flounder from the same local areas as last week. Bass have already been taken from the western Harbor and off Matinecock where Ron Oldenburg registered his first short fish on a Rebel.

Open boats are working in many areas. Pete Pearson of the Klondike VIII slaughtered flounder up in Northport on Saturday. The New Rochelle boat was working areas outside where dredges had been during the week. Wednesday's fishing showed a good assortment of fish over 1 pound. Sunday was a horrendous outing with a pick off Oyster Bay. Incidentally, the only other boat



LIF subscribers Patrick (pictured) and Fred Schreiber took these flatties, including the 2 1/2 lber. (honest weight) at left, in Long Island Sound on blood-worms and corn chum.

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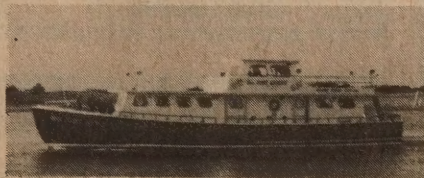
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Sinai saw some fish last week off Shoreham, although most weekend anglers seemed to be inside the harbor.

NORTH FORK

Ed Kopack at **Warren's in Aquabogue** mentioned some nice fish from Great Peconic Bay, 1/2 to 1 pound flatties off Simmons' and Red Cedar Point.

Although numbers were modest, fish sizes remained large off Nassau Point, according to word from Sal Loria at **Captain Marty's in New Suffolk**. Dom and Lou DeRanieri again accounted for 20 big fish in the 2 pound class on outgoing water Friday, while Sal headmanned a boat with 18. Among a catch of 30 fish averaging 1 pound taken from the flat in front of the station on Saturday was one giant flattie that pushed 3 pounds.

Ace Cottral at the **Port of Egypt in Southold** called to tell us about the first catch of flounder from Petty's Bight, 56 fish to 1 1/2 pounds. Private boats did well off Cedar Beach Point, from Smith Cove to Mashomack Point, and off the Park Pavilion on Long Beach, too.

Conklin's and Dering Harbor were preferred by the **Blue Albatross** and **Peconic Star** from **Greenport** late last week. Saturday's east and southeast winds made anchoring tough early Saturday, but action on Saturday afternoon was worth the wait. John Rainis told us that his heaviest fish this week was 1 3/4 pounds. Dave Brennan mentioned a high hook of 57 on Friday. Richie Jensen had a super day of fishing on Saturday, working away from the fleet on Saturday morning with the **Nancy Ann**.

Art White at **A.P. White Bait Shop** in **Greenport** figured that the Peconics were still a better bet than the Sound, with the fish meatier on the Bay side. The biggest fish of the season was weighed at White's last week, a 3 pound, 2 ounce giant.

Jerry McGrath of the **Nostalgia II** mentioned one good private catch of 20 fish near the Mattituck Inlet. He'll be sailing his first charters this coming weekend.



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that managed to get out last Sunday was the **North Star** from **City Island**.

Joe Ferrara of the **Ebb Tide III** told us that both he and Pete Anderson of the **North Star** are amazed that there are so many flounder. For those who have learned to bounce a sinker, wait 20 seconds, then slowly lift, catch ranges from good to excellent.

Dom Cerbone had a terrific Friday and a good Saturday with the **Apache** out of City Island. He found a load of ¾ to 1 pound fish in 20-30 feet of water off Bayville. Catches of 30-35 per fare are common with choosy anglers bringing home 15 or more larger fish. Lead size is anywhere up to 2-3 ounces.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

George Valentine at **Four Winds** in **Huntington Station** figured that the ratio of keepers to total fish inside the Bay is now 1:2 but some sources have spoken of fish all the way to 1½ pounds off Eaton's and Marshall Field. Short bass and schoolies to 4 pounds are available off Lilco and Crab Meadow, with mid-sound lobstermen already noting the presence of pods of mackerel.

Ronnie Ferraro at **Ronnie's** saw some big flatties off Eaton's, but said that the fishing was not great there yet.

The **Carafitis Fishing Station** in **Port Jefferson** spoke of a huge catch of flounder with about 3 dozen fish above 1 pound and one big fish in the 2 pound class. Conscience Bay on outgoing water was the ticket on worm and mussel bait with mussel chum. In the harbor, most of the action is in the mouth of the **Setauket Harbor**, Buoy 5, right on the ledge in 20 foot depths.

Ralph's Fishing Station in **Mount**



Bruce Antonius, Jerry Mastro, Jim Becker, Bill Pouder and Marvin Levine show part of their haul of flounder and blackfish taken off of Mattituck last fall aboard the charter boat "Nostalgia II."

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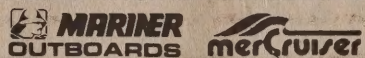
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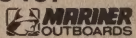
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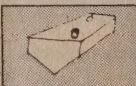


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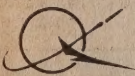
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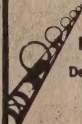


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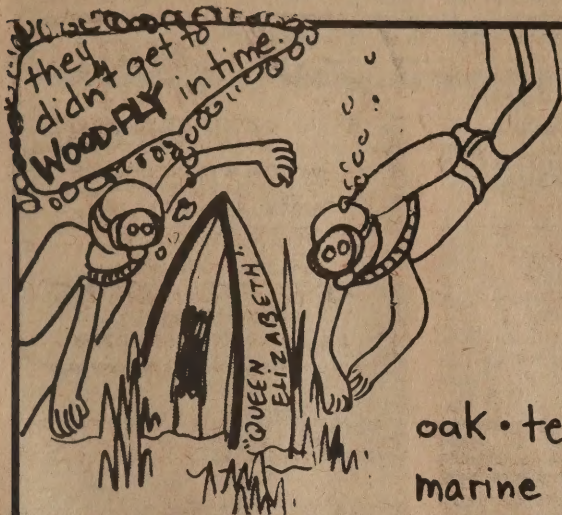
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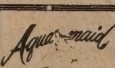
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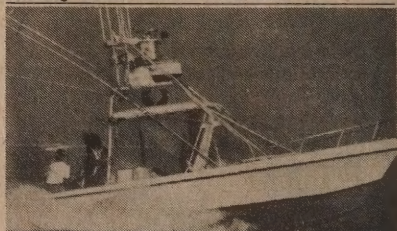
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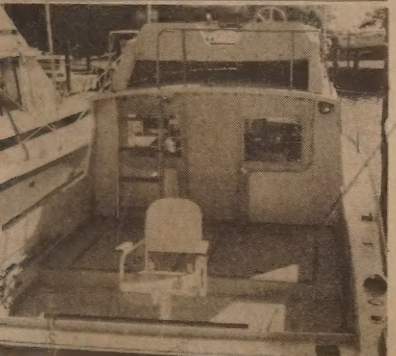
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Save \$\$ on your trim cylinders that are being destroyed by electrolysis & corrosion, with electrolysis insulators. Easy installation, satisfaction guaranteed. Send \$16.95 to: **ROSATO'S MARINE**, 37 Beach Ave., Copiague, NY 11726. 516-842-2030. NY res. add tax + shipping \$95. Also avail. rebuilt trim cylinders, \$65 ea. w/exchange.

APRIL FOOLISHNESS will save you \$\$\$ on purchase of Morrow Eagle Loran C, listed at \$1095. Come see. Price incl. antenna & mount, installation "locally" & your total satisfaction. Don't wait. We get back to being serious—starting in May—at **HEINE MARINE ELECTRONICS**, 250 Montauk Hwy, Islip. 516-581-0194.

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**Continued
On Next Page**

BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem & more. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & Permanent hitches for Sale or Rent. **BARN TRAILER SERVICE**, 57-06 Bway, Woodside, NY. 212-426-7039.



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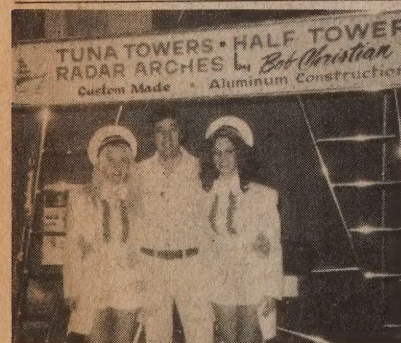
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Good condition, complete w/foot rest. After 6PM, any time 516-678-3774.

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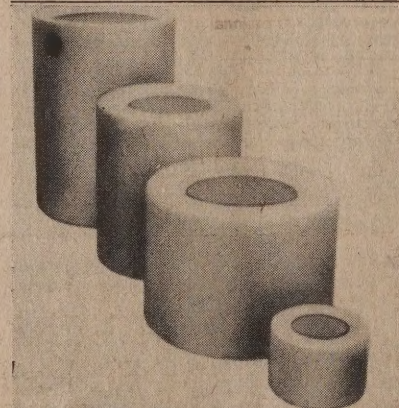
300 Chrysler manifolds, Ross dual recorder, Chris Craft 427 FWC block, 289 cu. in. 185 hp Waukesha complete FWC engine; Evinrude 115 block. Days. 516-728-4220 Tom.

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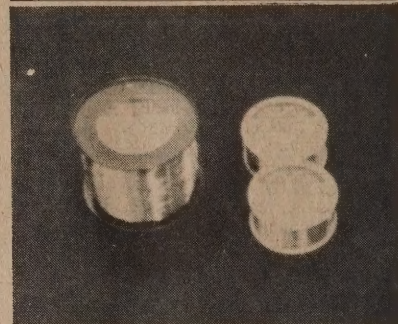
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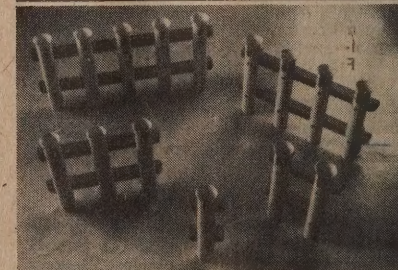
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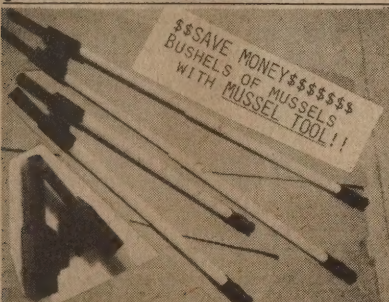
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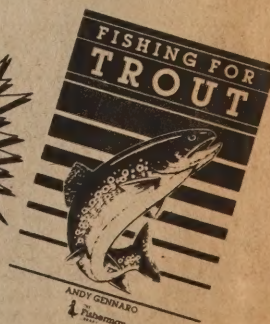
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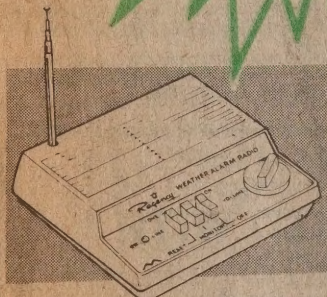


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